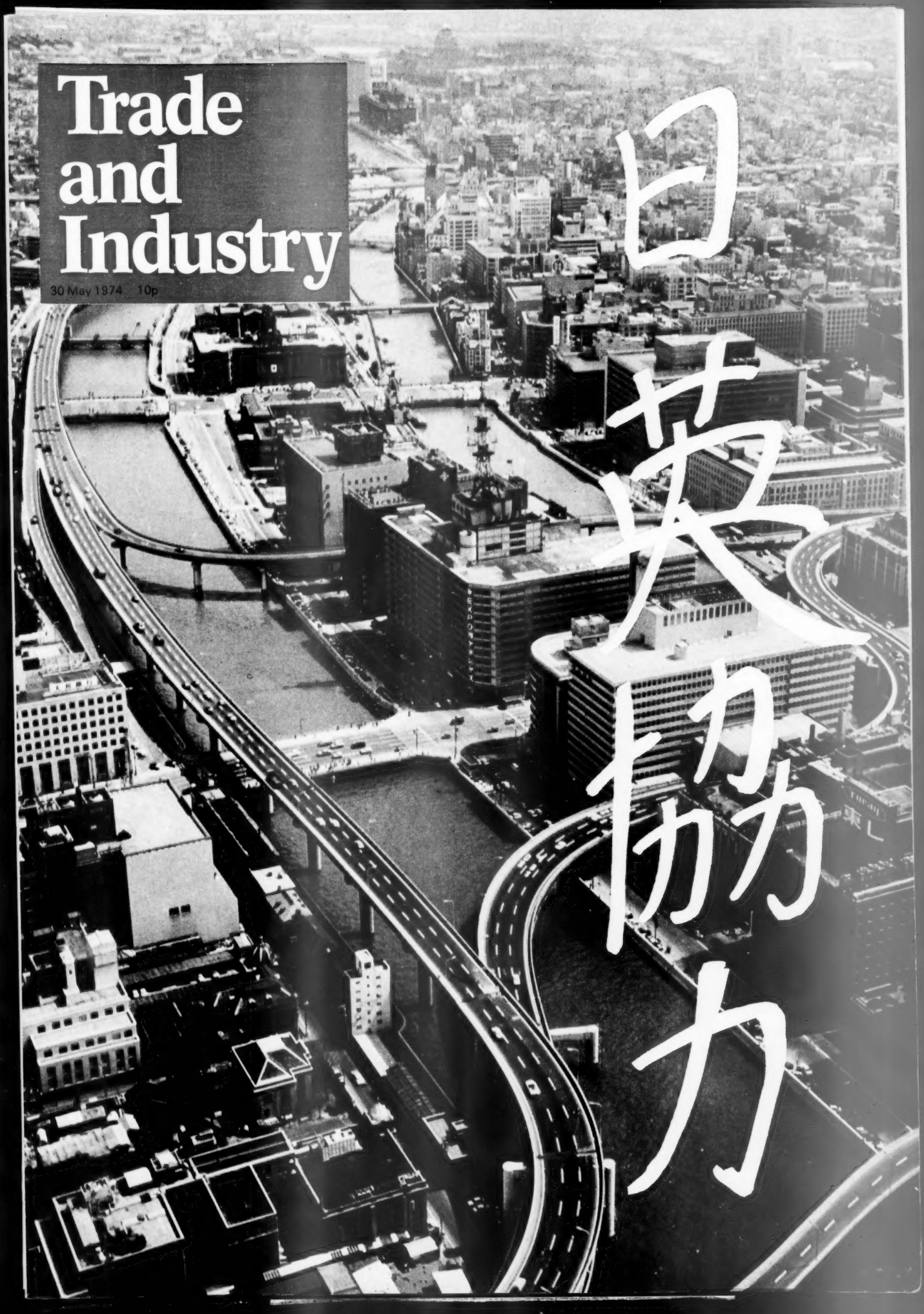
Trade and Industry

30 May 1974 10p



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Trade and Industry

30 May 1974

Anglo-Japanese co-operation . . . Thus reads the wording on the cover, against the background of Osaka. An example of increasing co-operation in business is found in the rapidly accelerating number of trade missions, in both directions. The editor of the 'Health and Social Services Journal', who attended the recent medical equipment exhibition in the British Export marketing Centre in Tokyo, has written a special article on his impressions of the Japanese market.

Trade and Industry
Incorporating the Board of Trade Journal
Volume 15. No. 9.
Pages 437 to 484. 30 May 1974.
Price 10p. Net subscription post inclusive, £7.60
Editorial: Room 437, 1 Victoria St., London SW1H 0ET. 01-222 7877
Advertisements: HMSO, Room C70, Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct, London EC1P 1BN. 01-248 9876 ext. 6147
Subscriptions: HMSO, PO Box 569, London SE1. 01-928 6977 ext. 472

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Home News

Closure proposals of British Steel Corporation: review body appointed

Tony Benn, Secretary of State for Industry, announced on 23 May the names of the review body appointed to look at the closure proposals of the British Steel Corporation. Answering a question in Parliament from Mr. Eddie Griffiths (Sheffield Brightside), Mr. Benn said:

'In accordance with our Election commitment, I requested the British Steel Corporation, immediately on my taking Office, to suspend all proposed closures of steel works that were implicit in the development strategy agreed by the previous Government. I am now conducting a review of these closures. I have given primary responsibility for conducting the review to my Rt. Hon. and Noble Friend the Minister of State, Lord Beswick, who will undertake the necessary consultations before final decisions are taken. I will, of course, proceed in the closest co-operation with the Secretaries of State for Scotland and Wales.

'I have now discussed and agreed with the British Steel Corporation and the TUC Steel Committee the procedure for undertaking the review. It has been agreed that the closures should be reviewed case by case. Apart from two imminent closures, namely at Stanton and at Irlam, where ad hoc procedures have been followed, the review of each closure will begin by a tripartite meeting consisting of representatives of the British Steel Corporation, of the TUC Steel Committee, including local trade union representatives designated by the Committee, and of the Government. After this initial meeting, and while each side is considering the points at issue, the Minister of State will consult local MPs, local authorities and other appropriate bodies who have made representations to the Government. A further tripartite meeting will, if necessary, then take place following which I would hope to reach a decision on each closure proposal. Representatives of the Scottish Office and of the Welsh Office would be wholly associated with the discussions in respect of proposed closures in these areas.

'In considering the order of cases for review, priority will be given to closures whose dates are relatively imminent and to those which are implicit in BSC investment projects now before us for approval. I have agreed with the Corporation and the TUC Steel Committee that the proposed closures should be considered in the following order: Hartlepool iron and steel making and Cleveland iron making; Workington; Ebbw Vale; East Moors; Shelton and Bilston; Shotton; The Scottish Closures; the proposed Redcar Plate Mill Development and associated closures; other closures in England.

'In the course of the review I shall look into the possibility of raising BSC's long term production target and at the possibility of other changes in BSC's general strategy providing for improvements to or alternative Corporation activities at plants now proposed for closure. But one of the main emphases in the review will have to be on the provision of alternative job opportunities. I therefore propose to continue work on this while the review is going on. I shall aim for the maximum of consultation with those affected and I shall provide the necessary information to enable the outcome of the review to be properly assessed.'

Tony Benn appoints new NRDC managing director

Tony Benn, Secretary of State for Industry, has appointed Mr. W. Makinson managing director of the National Research Development Corporation from 1 June. Mr. Makinson succeeds Dr. Basil Bard, who retired on 31 December 1973.

The Secretary of State has also appointed Mr. F. J. M. Laver and L. V. D. Tindale, members of the Corporation from 24 April, and 1 June respectively. Mr. G. C. Gaut and Sir Alexander Ross retired from NRDC on 31 March, after eight years' service.

Membership of the National Research Development Corporation is now: Sir Frank Schon, chairman; Mr. W. Makinson, managing director; Dr. J. C. Cain; Mr. F. J. M. Laver, Dr. W. Marshall; Dr. A. W. Pearce; Mr. L. V. D. Tindale; Lord Todd; Mr. F. A. S. Wood.

Government laboratory gets gas from refuse

Getting gas out of domestic rubbish is one of several research and development projects on which the Department of Industry's Warren Spring Laboratory, Stevenage, has been engaged during the past year.

The Laboratory's annual report covering the 1972-73 financial year, which has now been published, details these various schemes. They include agricultural and industrial offensive odour investigation; research into possible replacement of mini computers by micro processors; collaborative Government-industry schemes for mixing/storage systems and bulk storage hoppers; high temperature metallurgy; reduction of vehicle exhaust emission.

Industrial research accounted for 60 per cent of Warren Spring's work during the year. The other 40 per cent was devoted to environmental research. Oil pollution of the sea and beaches was one of the subjects of the Laboratory's environmental research work.

Warren Spring Laboratory was established in 1959. It is one of the Department's industrial research establishments. More than 300 technical staff work there in both fields of R & D. Their expertise is available on contract to industry, the professions, other Government departments and local authorities.

Copies of the Review 'Warren Spring Laboratory 1973' are available from: Warren Spring Laboratory, Gunnels Wood Road, Stevenage, Herts. SG1 2BX; tel. Stevenage (STD code 0438) 3388; Telex 82250.

Appointments to Advisory Council on Calibration and Measurement

Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, has made two appointments to the Advisory Council on Calibration and Measurement. Mr. Richard Foxwell, CBE, formerly deputy chairman, becomes chairman of the Council, succeeding Sir Harold Bishop, CBE, who retired on 31 March. His successor as deputy chairman is Mr. R. S. Medlock. Both appointments run initially from 1 April 1974 to 31 December 1975.

Three new members have recently been appointed to the Council and will serve until 31 December 1975; Mr. J. A. Edwards from 23 April 1974, Brigadier E. Holland from 22 April 1974 and Professor F. W. Spiers from 7 September 1973.

Other members of the Council whose appointments expired on 31 December 1973 have been asked to serve for another two years.

Further appointments are to be made with the intention of strengthening the industrial representation on the Council.

Universal Postal Union 1874/1974
3½P P&O packet steamer Peninsular 1888
Universal Postal Union 1874/1974
5½P First official airmail Coronation 1911
Universal Postal Union 1874/1974
8P Airmail blue van and postbox 1930

Three of the four stamps to be issued by the Post Office to commemorate the centenary of the Universal Postal Union. The stamps, which show steps in the development of overseas mail, will be issued on 12 June which is Great Britain Day at Internaba '74 – an international philatelic exhibition staged in Basle – as part of the centenary celebrations. The Post Office will be selling specially cancelled first-day covers on its stand at the exhibition

More patent applications last year than in 1972

More patent applications were made in 1973 than in the previous year, and nearly 4 per cent more complete specifications were lodged at the Patent Office.

The increase was almost entirely the result of additional applications filed by residents of foreign countries but there was evidence of increased participation of UK residents in international patenting, says the Comptroller-General in his Annual Report to Parliament on the work of the Patent Office in 1973, published on 23 May (HMSO, 36p).

Applications for Designs registration showed a further reduction of nearly 22 per cent over 1972, due, as in previous years to the particularly sharp fall in respect of textile articles. But the number of applications for the registration of Trade Marks held at the same high level as in 1972.

The trend of innovation showed some inventors to be active in the field of automatically applied vehicle seat belts, and fresh developments continued in the fight against pollution and in the use of adaptive control systems. There was also considerable activity on implantable prosthetic joints. In the electrical field there was a move towards increased accuracy of operation of devices, and in semi-conductors, the so-called charge-coupled devices.

The Departmental Committee under the chairmanship of Sir Reginald Mathys to examine Trade Mark law reported at the end of 1973. A Departmental Committee to consider copyright law and the system of protection of industrial designs has been set up under Sir John Whitford.

The backlog of complete patent specifications awaiting examination continued to rise and now represents almost one year's delay between filing and examination. The increase arose partly from the continuation of language training in preparation for setting up the European Patent Office but mainly from the increased input coupled with a further drop in the number of technical staff; a vigorous recruitment campaign has been initiated to attract new staff.

The report shows that 1973 was a year of exceptional international activity resulting particularly in the conclusion of the European Patent Convention in Munich and the Trademark Registration Treaty in Vienna. When the procedures are in operation a single application at the European Patent Office will secure patent protection in any or all of the member countries. Similarly, trade mark rights in member countries will be afforded by a single application.

Patents endorsed 'Licences of Right'

Under Section 35 of the Patents Act 1949 the following patents were endorsed 'Licences of Right' on the date specified.

Number	Grantee	Subject-matter
10 May 1974		
1,008,951	Anker-Werke AG	Improvements in or relating to franking machines
1,153,316	Gevaert-Agfa NV	Improved magnetic recording material
1,159,183	International Standard Electric Corporation	Pulse signal exchange
1,179,005	International Standard Electric Corporation	Data processing system
1,208,329	International Standard Electric Corporation	Device for selective call sending
1,284,360	International Standard Electric Corporation	A method of manufacturing ferrite materials
1,218,578	Societe Generale de Fonderie	Improvements in and relating to boilers having sectional combustion chambers
1,222,693	Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd.	Pulse re-shaping circuit
1,229,908	Polytype AG	A carrier for holding multi-sided hollow bodies
1,331,203	Gyogyszerkutatato Intezet	Substituted methoxyamine derivatives

Any person who claims that the patentee at the time of endorsement of any of the above Patents was precluded by a contract in which claimant is interested from granting licences under the patents may apply for cancellation of the endorsement on Patents Form No. 45 within two months after the date of endorsement.

E. Armitage
Comptroller

New Merchant Shipping Bill: correction

Trade and Industry of 16 May, announcing the introduction of the new Merchant Shipping Bill into the House of Lords, erroneously reported that oil tankers would have to comply with the constructional requirements of Part II if they were ordered after 1 January 1974, or if in the absence of a building contract their keels were laid after 30 June 1974.

These dates ought to have read 1 January 1972 and 30 June 1972 respectively, being the dates contained in the Amendments to the 1954 Convention.

The later (1974) dates derive from the 1973 Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, in which the requirements as to tank sizes and arrangements were incorporated. This Convention will inevitably take some time to come into force and Governments were urged meanwhile to implement the 1971 Amendments as they stood. This is what the Government intends to do.

Flight Time Limitations Board

The Civil Aviation Authority has established a Flight Time Limitations Board in accordance with the recommendations made by the Committee on Flight Time Limitations.

Group Capt. Douglas Bader, a part-time member of the Authority and the chairman of the Committee on Flight Time Limitations, is to be chairman of the board. Other members are Dr. Walter Tye, controller safety and member of the Authority; Sir Peter Masefield, formerly chief executive of BEA and chairman of the British Airports Authority; Dr. A. Sibbald, the well-known aeromedical specialist; Capt. J. S. M. Arnot and Mr. H. P. K. Dibley, airline pilots (nominated by pilot associations); Capt. J. Andrews and Capt. P. A. Mackenzie (nominated by airline operators).

The terms of reference of the Board are:

To keep under review and to advise the Authority on any necessary amendment to the Air Navigation Order and the Authority's Requirements relative to Flight Time Limitations;

To advise the Authority on the application of the Authority's Requirements in general and in particular cases; and

To advise the Authority on any needs for aeromedical or associated research.

The Authority has completed wide ranging discussions with operators and pilot organisations, and is about to publish its proposals for amendments to the Air Navigation Order and its proposed Requirements for Flight Time Limitations.

The Authority believes that the Flight Time Limitations Board will play a valuable role in resolving any problems which may arise in the implementation of the future Requirements.

Restriction of insurance company

Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, has issued a direction under Section 13(1) of the Insurance Companies Amendment Act 1973 to Lion Assurance Co. Ltd. that it shall cease taking on new business in Great Britain on and after 16 May 1974. This prohibition also applies to the variation of existing contracts effected in the course of carrying on long-term business in such a manner as to increase the liabilities of the company.

This direction does not prevent the company satisfying its liabilities under existing policies, accepting surrenders, or converting policies to a fully paid up basis.

Lord Kearton appointed to CEGB

Eric Varley, Secretary of State for Energy, has authorised the appointment of Lord Kearton as a part-time member of the Central Electricity Generating Board. Lord Kearton is to take up his new appointment on 1 June.

Claims provision for non-life insurance business

Some 200 actuaries, accountants, statisticians, brokers, insurers and others attended a symposium on Claims Provision for Non-Life Insurance Business held in London on 22 May. The symposium was organised by the Institute of Mathematics and its Applications and was sponsored jointly by the Institute and the Department of Trade.

In a short opening speech of thanks to the Institute and the participants, Stanley Clinton Davis, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Companies, Aviation and Shipping at the Department of Trade, referred to the Department's responsibility for protecting the interests of insurance policyholders by ensuring, so far as this is possible, that insurers are able to meet their obligations. He said that 'perhaps the most intractable aspect of non-life insurance management is how to make a proper assessment of the ultimate cost of claims'. After referring to the fact that the Department's task is to 'verify the assessments made by the companies and to ensure that adequate provisions have been made to meet them' the Parliamentary Under-Secretary spoke of the work on the subject done by various interested professions and explained that the Department had thought it would be useful if there could be a wide ranging discussion of the many technical problems involved.

Several papers were discussed including two by members of the staff of Insurance Division of the Department of Trade – Professor R. E. Beard (Technical Adviser), and Mr. C. J. Homewood. Other Department of Trade participants were Mr. M. S. Morris (Under-Secretary) and other members of the staff of Insurance Division and representatives of Establishment Management Services and Manpower Division and Accountancy Services Division. The chairmen were Professor Sir Hermann Bondi, President of the Institute and Chief Scientific Adviser at the Ministry of Defence and the Government Actuary, Mr. Edward Johnston.

There was a full and interesting discussion and the Department will be studying the various ideas put forward.

First Design Council Awards for motor vehicle industry

The KL Jeenay child safety seat and the Leyland National bus are among the six winners of the first Design Council awards for the British motor vehicle industry. Aimed at promoting internationally the design achievements of the British motor industry and at stimulating improvements in motor vehicle design, the award scheme was launched jointly by the Design Council and the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders. The awards for the British motor vehicle industry will become part of the Design Council's annual awards programme and this year six winners were presented with certificates by HRH The Duke of Edinburgh at a ceremony in London on 23 May.

As well as the KL Jeenay child safety seat and the Leyland National bus, awards have been given to Lumenition Limited for its opto-electronic ignition system, to the Ford Motor Company Limited for its R module cluster vehicle instrumentation, to Rover Triumph British Leyland UK Limited for the Triumph Dolomite Sprint cylinder head, and to the Bostrom Division of Universal Oil Products Limited for its Bostrom Argus de luxe Mk II agricultural tractor seat and Bostrom XH seat suspension.

The judging panel was chaired by Lord Caldecote, chairman of the Design Council and chairman of the Delta Metal Company Limited. Other members of the judging panel were Professor R. H. Macmillan, director, Motor Industry Research Association; Mr. David Jones, a former styling director for Vauxhall Motors; Sir John Waldron, chairman of the Council for Vehicle Servicing and Repair; Mr. Maurice Smith, editorial director of IPC Transport Press; Mr. H. Perring, chief mechanical engineer, Vehicle Engineering

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and Inspection, Department of the Environment; Professor Sir Misha Black, Professor of Industrial Design, Royal College of Art; and Miss Esther Rantzen, the television personality from the BBC programme 'That's Life'.

No Duke of Edinburgh's Design Prize this year

The Duke of Edinburgh's Design Prize is not being awarded in 1974.

The categories for the 1974 prize comprised technical equipment of many kinds for the home or office. Although the selection committee, under the chairmanship of the Duke of Edinburgh, considered that the overall design standard of the industries concerned was high, it was felt that, as in previous years, the prize should be given only if there was an item of exceptional merit which stood out clearly from the short-listed contenders. The absence of such an item this year underlines the difficulty of giving a single award in those industries in which high design standards are commonly to be found.

Report to Parliament forecasts more Continental Shelf oil and gas discoveries

Oil production from the United Kingdom Continental Shelf could be within the 100-140 million tons range in 1980 and be sustained at 100-150 million tons, or even more, during the 1980s. And total supplies of natural gas could double to about 6,000 million cubic feet a day (mcfd) in the late 1970s.

These estimates were given on 21 May by Eric Varley, Secretary of State for Energy, in his annual report to Parliament of forecasts of oil and gas reserves and production from the United Kingdom Continental Shelf.*

Oil

The report says that, allowing for further discoveries, production in 1980 could be in the range of 100-140 million tons compared with last year's estimate of 70-100 million tons.

'The likelihood of further discoveries, both in areas already licensed and in new areas to be licensed later, opens up the prospect of reserves capable of sustaining production at a rate of 100-150 million tons a year, or even more, in the 1980s', the report adds.

'There is, therefore, now a very good chance that in 1980 we can produce oil equivalent to our demand'.

But the report stresses that forecasts of future oil production are subject to considerable uncertainty because much exploration remains to be done and production has not yet started.

* 'Production and reserves of oil and gas in the United Kingdom: a report to Parliament by the Secretary of State for Energy, May 1974', published for the Department of Energy by HMSO, price 32p net.

Gas

The main hopes for future discoveries rest outside the southern basin, off eastern England, which has already been extensively explored. But it is reasonable to assume that further discoveries will be made over the next few years and hopes of more finds in the northern basin, off the Shetlands and East Scotland, are particularly high.

Forecasting more discoveries, the report says that gas reserves in the United Kingdom part of the North Sea alone could be significantly greater in 10 years' time than now. Exploration of other parts of the United Kingdom Continental Shelf could increase reserves still further.

Gas reserves, as now estimated, should support production of about 5,000 mcfd towards the end of this decade. But supplies from the Norwegian part of the Frigg field, for which British Gas has agreed a contract with the operators, subject to the approval of the Norwegian Parliament, could make it about 6,000 mcfd.

Thus total United Kingdom supplies in the late 1970s could be double 3,000 mcfd of gas produced from the North Sea in 1973.

It is now estimated that total United Kingdom natural gas reserves remaining in known discoveries could be as high as 41.5 trillion (10^{12}) cubic feet (tcf) compared with last year's estimate of 36-37 tcf.

The report points out that, while prospects are good, reserves of oil and gas under the Continental Shelf will not last for ever. It therefore stresses the importance of using them in the best possible way.

Coal's bright future in an energy market 'turned upside down'

'In nine short months the fourfold rise in oil prices has turned the energy market upside down. We have moved in this short period from a cheap to a dear energy economy.'

This was stated in London on 22 May by Alex Eadie, Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Energy, at the annual luncheon of the Coal Merchants Federation.

Mr. Eadie continued: 'The effect of all this has been to revolutionise coal's outlook. Coal now has a secure role within a four-fuel economy: coal, oil, gas and nuclear power.

'What is more, coal is an indigenous resource, and we in the United Kingdom are very well placed for indigenous fuel.

'The Government has already demonstrated coal's importance to the economy. Within days of coming into office we announced the setting up of an examination into the future of the industry. We hope an interim report will be ready by the end of June and we intend to complete the examination by the end of the summer.

'One of the areas under consideration of particular interest to myself is the scope for developing profitable new uses for coal and coal based materials.

'The NCB has done some fine work on this in recent years. Its work on coal liquefaction provides a take-off point into oil from coal should we need to go down that road. I believe that there are great opportunities which have been enhanced by the movements in price of competing petroleum feedstocks.

'It is not just oil and gas which may be too valuable simply to burn; coal is also potentially a very valuable source of raw materials'.

Mr. Eadie paid a tribute to the distributive trade's efforts during last winter's problems. He said:

'The fact that the domestic coal market is still as large as it is, is a great tribute to the efforts of the distributive trade, in conjunction with the NCB, and more recently to the success of the Solid Fuel Advisory Service. Who would have thought the outlook could have been so bright in, say, January or even February?

Distribution services

'You bent your efforts to ensuring that available supplies were distributed fairly and that stocks were conserved as far as possible. In these ways you helped very much to sustain the life of the community and prevent hardship to the public. By the operation of a voluntary priority system you helped to prevent widespread harm to the very young, the very old, the sick or incapacitated people dependent upon solid fuel heating. My Government was not, of course, involved. But I think it would be remiss of me if I did not pass on my Department's thanks to your Federation for their invaluable and unstinted help.'

The Minister concluded: 'The main reason for optimism in the coal trade must stem from the now highly competitive position of the fuel you sell. We have seen some fairly large increases in the price of coal to industrial users, but those increases have not eliminated coal's lead over oil.

'On the domestic front the NCB has delayed a price increase until the autumn in the interests of protecting ordinary people from further inflation. This will provide a welcome breathing space to families on low incomes who depend heavily on coal.'

'The domestic price increases proposed for the autumn are relatively modest compared with the industrial increases. And the NCB's ability to keep the price increases for domestic coal as small as this is a welcome contribution to the Government's policy of fighting inflation. I hope that the distributive trade will do all it can to keep down the final price to the domestic consumer.

'The more successful everyone is in maintaining coal's new found competitive position, then the greater the opportunities for you all in the future.'

Parliament

Thursday, 16 May

Amended Price Code

Mr. Geoffrey Finsberg (Hampstead) asked whether the effect of paragraph 6 of the Counter-Inflation (Price and Pay Code) (Amendment) (No. 2) Order 1974 was intended to be that if, at a time of a general decline in net profits margins in distribution, a business was maintaining its net profit margin by reason of an increase in the real volume of business transacted, it was liable to be required to reduce its gross percentage margin.

Mrs. Williams replied: 'The new paragraph 74 of the Code makes a general cut in the gross percentage margins of distributors and the new paragraph 74B provides a new safeguard for individual distributors. Paragraph 80 is accordingly a provision designed principally to deal with unforeseen circumstances or special situations which might affect particular groups or sectors. The paragraph also relates to individual enterprises but this is desirable to provide a necessary flexibility. It is not the intention that paragraph 80 would be applied to an individual trader in the circumstances mentioned by the Hon. Member. Such a trader would of course be subject to the limits prescribed by the Code in relation to his gross and net profit margins.'

Government assistance to industry

Mr. Peter Rees (Dover and Deal) asked for a table showing the amount of grants, loans, subventions and subsidies of whatever kind, including remissions of debt, made by HMG to industry in each of the past 10 years.

Mr. Heffer gave the following information:

Cheese subsidy

Mr. Michael Latham (Melton) asked on what basis, in the light of the unavailability of the cost of the cheese subsidy in respect of each particular cheese, it was calculated the cost in respect of nine imported cheese would be £2.4 million in 1974-75.

Mr. Maclennan replied: 'The calculation was made by apportioning imports under the appropriate United Kingdom customs tariff heading on the basis of country of origin, and applying the subsidy of £105 per ton to the estimated overall imports of the varieties in question.'

Mr. Latham also asked on what statistical basis a saving of 5½p per week to a typical family was calculated.

Ministers at the Department of Industry

Secretary of State for Industry: Anthony Wedgwood Benn
Ministers of State: Eric Heffer
Lord Beswick
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State: Gregor MacKenzie
Michael Meacher

Ministers at the Department of Trade

Secretary of State for Trade: Peter Shore
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State: Eric Deakins
Stanley Clinton Davis

Ministers at the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection

Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection: Shirley Williams
Minister of State: Alan Williams
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State: Robert Maclennan

TABLE I GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE TO PRIVATE INDUSTRY

All figures in £m at historic prices and net of repayment

	1964/65	1965/66	1966/67	1967/68	1968/69	1969/70	1970/71	1971/72	1972/73	1973/74
Regional Development Grants (excluding Public Corporations)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	89
Investment Grants (excluding Public Corporations)	—	—	—	288	437	544	540	461	295	191
Expenditure under the Local Employment Act	26	18	35	35	34	43	51	41	47	35
Selective Regional Assistance	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	*	25
Selective General Assistance	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	10
Refinancing of Home Shipbuilding Credit	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	50	95
Assistance to Shipbuilding Industry	20	30	−1	−6	*	10	*	7	17	24
National Film Finance Corporation	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	*	*	*
Technological and Industrial Sponsorship	*	*	2	3	5	5	5	3	5	5
Promotion of Tourism	2	2	2	3	4	5	6	10	15	28
Industrial Reorganisation Corporation	—	—	—	17	33	26	25	−37	−34	−10
Industrial Investment Schemes	—	—	—	—	23	13	15	12	8	4
Assistance to Cotton and Allied Textiles	3	3	*	—	*	—	—	—	—	—
Assistance to Aerospace Industry (See Note)	13	24	41	62	81	86	122	174	126	133
National Space Programme	7	11	12	12	13	12	3	4	4	3
General Industrial R & D Support (including NRDC)	9	11	17	16	17	20	8	5	5	4
REP	—	—	—	34	102	108	108	109	100	106
Total, Private Industry	80	99	108	464	752	872	884	789	654	748

* Insignificant amounts.
Note: The civil element of the aircraft and aeroengine general R & D programme was not separately identified before 1970/71 and is not included in the totals before that year.

TABLE II GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE TO PUBLIC CORPORATIONS

All figures in £m at historic prices and net of repayment

	1964/65	1965/66	1966/67	1967/68	1968/69	1969/70	1970/71	1971/72	1972/73	1973/74
Investment Grants to Public Corporations	—	—	—	14	29	33	37	21	34	34
Regional Development Grants to Public Corporations	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	18

Note: The figures in this table are for all public corporations. They exclude payments of REP, details of which are not readily available. In addition, the following measures of assistance have been given to the Nationalised Industries for which the Department of Industry is responsible.

Post Office: A grant of £9.7 million for compensation for price restraint in 1973/74.
£177 million of capital debt incurred in the years 1961-73 written off under the Post Office (Borrowing) Act, 1972.

British Steel Corporation: £350 million of capital debt was transferred to the reserves under the Iron and Steel Act (1972), and of this £118 million had been written off by 31 March 1973.

'The calculation was made by applying the estimated saving of about 7p per lb to weekly consumption data derived from the National Food Survey,' said Mr. Maclennan.

Mr. Latham then asked what estimate had been made in tonnage form, of the consumption in 1974-75 of Gouda, Edam, Elbo, Danbo, Havarti, Samsoe, Maribo, Tybo and St. Paulin cheeses, respectively, in calculating the cost of the cheese subsidy; upon what statistical basis the calculation was made; and how many people were interviewed while undertaking the appropriate research.

'Separate estimates are not available,' said Mr. Maclennan. 'The estimated annual consumption of all these varieties of cheese, based on an apportionment of import figures for 1973, is 25,000 tons.'

Mr. Latham also asked how many officials were wholly or mainly engaged in duties relating to the implementation of cheese subsidies; how many were in each Civil Service grade; and what was the administrative cost involved.

Mr. Maclennan answered: 'None in my Department. The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is administering the scheme on my behalf, and for this purpose has established a new section comprising one principal, one higher executive officer, one executive officer and one clerical officer.'

UN Conference on Trade and Development

Lord Shinwell asked what action was taken by the British representative at the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at Geneva on the proposal that conference arrangements between shipowners and shippers should be superseded by international control.

Lord Beswick replied: 'The Convention on a Code of Conduct for Liner Conferences prepared at the recent United Nations Conference contains a number of provisions which would, in our view, hamper seaborne trade and impair the efficient operation of world-wide shipping services. For this reason Her Majesty's Government, after full consultation with shipowners and shippers, voted against the Convention, as did Denmark, Finland, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and the United States of America. We had participated fully in the prolonged efforts to draft a universally acceptable set of rules to govern relationships between shipowners themselves and between them and their customers. It was therefore a matter of regret that this Convention failed to achieve this aim.'

EEC: employment of foreign ships crews

Lord Shinwell asked whether article 48 of the Rome Treaty and regulation 1612/68 concerning non-discrimination operates in the employment of foreign ships crews speaking no English and unable to understand orders affecting safety.

Lord Beswick said that Article 48 of the Treaty of Rome and Regulation 1612/68 concern the free movement of labour, though they have not as yet been applied to sea transport. An employer within the Community is entitled to select or reject an employee on the basis of his suitability and qualifications for the post concerned. The inability to understand orders given in English would be grounds for rejection for employment on a United Kingdom ship.

Friday, 17 May

Waste paper

Several questions were asked by Mr. Leslie Huckfield (Nuneaton) on the shortage of pulp for paper-making.

Mr. Benn replied: 'World-wide demand for all forest products is at a very high level and supplies of pulp are tight, so that some mills are experiencing difficulty in maintaining supplies. My officials have regular contacts with the major pulp supplying countries, and the current shortage has been discussed with them at recent meetings. My Department is also in close touch with the British Paper and Board Industry Federation, particularly about the shortfall in Finnish pulp supplies, but at present this matter is being pursued on an industry to industry basis and Government intervention has not been sought. I shall continue to keep the situation under close examination.'

Mr. D. W. Mudd (Falmouth and Camborne) asked what contribution the recycling of waste paper and paper products made in both cost and volume to a reduction in imports in each of the years 1970, 1971, 1972 and 1973.

Mr. Benn answered that precise estimates could not be made, but if no waste paper had been recycled in 1973, production of about 1.8 million tonnes of paper and board might have been rendered uneconomic. It would have cost about £150 million to replace this home production by imported products. Comparable figures were not available for earlier years.

'I am currently considering what contribution Government can make to a sustained, long-term increase in waste paper collection and usage,' he added.

Consumer Credit Bill

Mr. David Steel (Roxburgh, Selkirk and Peebles) asked what consultations took place between the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection and representatives of the legal profession in Scotland before the Consumer Credit Bill was drafted.

'The Bill has been drafted in close consultation with the Scottish Office and Lord Advocate's Department,' said Mr. Williams. 'The latter drafted the Scottish provisions of the Bill. Views expressed by Scottish organisations including those representing the legal profession in Scotland were taken into account; certain minor difficulties were pointed out and taken care of in drafting the Bill.'

Milk containers

Mr. Bates (Bebington and Ellesmere Port) asked questions about increased prices due to the use of containers other than bottles for the sale of milk; what controls had been imposed on the price of milk sold in such containers and what representations had been received concerning the price of milk sold in containers other than bottles.

Mr. Maclennan said: 'The price of milk is controlled by the Milk (Great Britain) Order administered by the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and the Secretary of State for Scotland. No separate price is laid down in the Order for sales in containers other than bottles, but such sales are subject to the over-riding provision that no unreasonable additional charge may be made.

'It has been pointed out that the price of milk in cartons was in some areas reduced by only ½p when the maximum price for sales covered by the Order was reduced by 1p. The Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is making inquiries about this.'

Metric weights of sugar

Mr. John Biffen (Oswestry) inquired about proposals for the prescribing of retail sales of sugar in metric weights.

Mr. Williams said: 'As the Hon. Member may know this proposal was under discussion between the industry and my predecessors for a very considerable time. I am still considering representations I have received. The advantages here have to be considered from the whole process of metrication rather than from individual products.'

Monday, 20 May

UK exports

Mr. Bruce-Gardyne (South Angus) asked which countries, other than those of North America, had been identified as offering the best prospects for the expansion of UK exports because of their relative immunity to the effects of world energy shortages.

Mr. Deakins answered that broad support had been received by the British Overseas Trade Board for continuing its joint consultation with industry about export promotion in all major markets. 'Immunity to energy shortages is only one factor determining a market's prospects,' he added.

Trade with USSR

Figures were asked for by Mr. Hugh Dykes (Harrow, East) for the balance of visible trade between the United Kingdom and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics for the last available 12-month period.

Mr. Deakins replied: 'The "crude" trade deficit (ie the difference between imports cif and exports fob) in the 12 months ended April 1974 was £261 million; the deficit on a balance of payments basis is not available.'

Trade with Europe

Mr. Viggers (Gosport) asked what was the UK's balance of trade position in relation to the present European Economic Community countries in 1972 and in 1973; and what was the UK's balance of trade position in relation to countries other than the present EEC members in 1972 and 1973.

Mr. Deakins said that the trade deficit with the other countries of the European Economic Community was £532 million in 1972 and £1.119 million in 1973; for the rest of the world the corresponding figures were £145 million and £1,256 million respectively.

Mr. Michael Shersby (Hillingdon, Uxbridge) inquired about steps specifically designed to promote trade with Europe.

Mr. Deakins said: 'The British Overseas Trade Board is actively engaged in drawing the attention of industry to export opportunities wherever they arise and in implementing trade promotion programmes agreed with industry. Of the 19 major markets identified by the Board as part of this activity, 11 are in Europe. The Board is advised by the European Trade Committee on particular problems and aspects of the promotional effort in Europe.'

Parliament continued

Mr. Edwin Wainwright (Dearne Valley) asked what departmental encouragement was being offered to firms producing domestic central heating systems seeking markets for these heating units in the European countries.

'Encouragement and help are offered by the British Overseas Trade Board through its wide range of services for exporters,' answered Mr. Deakins.

Export Credits Guarantee Department

Mr. Shersby (Hillingdon, Uxbridge) wanted to know the extent of outstanding loans, bad debts and the profit or loss showing on the accounts of the Export Credit Guarantees Department for each of the last 15 years.

'This information is included in the Annual Appropriation and Trading Accounts of the Export Credits Guarantee Department, copies of which are available in the Library,' said Mr. Deakins.

'For the period 1958/59 to 30 April 1970 outstanding loans are shown in the Annual Accounts of the Acquisition of Guaranteed Securities Fund appended to the Appropriation Accounts for Export Credits (Special Guarantees, etc). Thereafter the information is contained in the Notes to the Accounts for Export Credits (Special Guarantees etc).

'The Notes to the Annual Appropriation Accounts for Export Credits and Export Credits (Special Guarantees, etc) show the amounts written off as bad debts. The profit or loss for the Credit Insurance and Special Guarantees Schemes is represented by the balance carried forward to the Balance Sheet as shown in the Annual Trading Accounts and Balance Sheets for the two Schemes.'

Mr. Shersby also asked the extent of overdue payments to the ECGD which might be incapable of collection.

Mr. Deakins said that, at 31 March 1974, payments overdue to ECGD from policyholders and not expected to be recoverable amounted to £558,040.

At the same date claims under examination in respect of payments overdue to policyholders from their customers amounted to £21.5 million. No estimate could yet be made of the amount for which the Department would become liable which would subsequently prove to be irrecoverable.

Company law

Mr. Terry Walker (Kingswood) asked if legislation would be introduced to make it mandatory for promotional costs to be disclosed in companies' annual accounts.

'We shall be considering what information companies should be required to disclose in their accounts as part of our general review of company law,' answered Mr. Clinton Davis.

Aircraft noise

Sir George Sinclair (Dorking) asked how many noise infringements took place at Gatwick in the last 12 months; and what action was taken.

'No infringement of prescribed noise limits has been recorded at monitoring points in the last 12 months,' said Mr. Clinton Davis.

Government support programmes

Mr. Tom King (Bridgwater) asked for a definition from the Secretary of State for Industry of the particular programmes of Government support and assistance represented in his figure of £3,000 million.

'The programmes are as follows,' said Mr. Heffer:

- Regional Development Grants
- Investment Grants
- Expenditure under the Local Employment Act
- Selective Regional Assistance (Section 7 of the Industry Act 1972)
- Selective General Assistance (Section 8 of the Industry Act 1972 and support for ICL)
- Refinancing of Home Shipbuilding Credit
- Other Assistance to the Shipbuilding Industry
- Loans to the National Film Finance Corporation
- Industrial Sponsorship
- Promotion of Tourism
- Industrial Reorganisation Corporation
- Industrial Investment Schemes (assistance to the Aluminium Industry)
- Assistance to the Aerospace Industry
- National Space Programme
- General Industrial R & D Support (including NRDC)
- Regional Employment Premium

'Information on expenditure under these programmes was given in my reply to the Question by the Member for Dover and Deal on 16 May.' (*See page 442.*)

Offshore oil supply vessels

Dr. J. Dickson Mabon (Greenock and Port Glasgow) asked how many offshore oil supply vessels were on order in UK yards.

'There are currently 21 such vessels on order in United Kingdom shipyards,' answered Mr. Benn.

Diesel engines for private cars

'What is HM Government's policy,' asked Mr. Shersby, 'for encouraging the development and use of diesel engines in private motor cars?'

Mr. Benn replied: 'My officials are discussing with industry the prospects for the increased use of diesel engines in passenger cars.'

Profit margin control

Several questions were asked by Mr. Bruce-Gardyne on the increase in UK imports and exports of various products during 1973, and the extent to which the volume of imports of these products was swollen by the reimport of goods required for the home market but originally exported in order to take advantage of the exemption of export sales from profit margin control.

'My Rt. Hon. Friend the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection has said that she will study the implications of the price control measures', said Mr. Meacher. 'I am aware that these measures, as well as a general increase in economic activity worldwide, could have affected the pattern of UK trade in 1973, but I think it unlikely that they were of more than a marginal influence.'

Deep sea mining projects

'What were the terms' asked Mr. Frank Hooley (Sheffield, Heeley) 'on which £830,000 of public money was made available to Rio Tinto Zinc Ltd. and Consolidated Goldfields to undertake research and development on deep sea mining and processing of manganese nodules; and what other arrangements have been made of this nature?'

Mr. Benn answered: 'The main terms of the offer, which was announced on 29 January, are that if the project leads to commercial production the assistance will be repaid with interest and supplies of metals will be made available to UK consumers. The offer of assistance is limited to the initial phase of the project. No financial assistance has been offered to companies for other deep sea mining projects.'

Scrap metal

Estimates were asked for by Mr. Grist (Cardiff, North) of present and future supplies of scrap metal to the steel industry and the bearing such estimates had on the future of the East Moors works in Cardiff.

'I know that the steel industry is concerned that future indigenous supplies of good quality steelmaking scrap may be inadequate to meet potential demand,' said Mr. Benn. 'This is one of the factors which will be taken into account in my review of the BSCs proposed closures, which include East Moors.'

Raw material prices

Mr. Charles Fletcher-Cooke (Darwen) asked if action would be taken to alleviate the problems of British manufacturers unable to obtain raw materials in the United Kingdom owing to price control, since their normal supplies were being sold abroad at market prices.

Mrs. Williams answered: 'British manufacturers are not alone in having difficulties over supplies of industrial materials. I am proposing to review the operation of the Price Code and will consider action if it is in the national interest and if it is demonstrated that our domestic price controls are causing supplies normally for the home market to be diverted abroad.'

Polypropylene and polystyrene

Mr. Bruce-Gardyne (South Angus) asked if the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection had concluded her investigation of the effect on user-industries of the diversion of supplies of polypropylene and polystyrene from the UK to export markets through the activities of the Price Commission.

Mr. Maclennan answered: 'As I said on 30 April, we will take into account in our review of the Price Code the diversion of supplies from the home market if this is shown to be caused by the Code. Evidence sent to my department so far does not suggest any general diversion of plastics materials away from the United Kingdom as a result of the price disparities between the United Kingdom and overseas markets. I am nevertheless continuing to keep a close watch on the position.'

Car purchase loans

Mr. Neil Kinnock (Bedwellty) asked if legislation would be introduced to control the interest rates which finance houses charge for car purchase loans.

Mr. Williams answered: 'The Consumer Credit Bill, now passing through Parliament, will require full disclosure of all charges and this will enable consumers to see what range of rates and charges are available from different sources. It will also enable the Courts to re-open agreements with extortionate rates.'

Petrol retail outlets

Mr. W. W. Hamilton (Central Fife) stated that; 'the major oil companies are increasing their control of petrol retail outlets after exploiting the efforts and initiative of the private operative and owner' and asked if steps would be taken 'to prevent these abuses'.

Mr. Williams answered: 'I am aware that oil companies are tending increasingly to acquire petrol stations and to operate them under direct management. I understand that the Director General of Fair Trading is looking into the situation.'

Prices telephone advice bureaux

Mrs. Sally Oppenheim (Gloucester) asked if the Director General of Fair Trading could examine the introduction of prices telephone advice bureaux similar to those in operation in Germany.

'This is the direct responsibility of my Department,' answered Mr. Williams. 'We are at present studying methods of extending and improving the information available to consumers and are investigating this particular possibility with the Post Office.'

Food prices

Mr. John Gorst (Barnet, Hendon, North) asked how many increases in prices of individual items of food had been recorded between 5 March and the latest available date.

Mrs. Williams replied that in mid-March the Food Index was 1.1 per cent higher than in February. 'The comparable information for April is not yet available,' she continued. 'However, so far as the main foodstuffs are concerned my information is that the prices of home-killed lamb and of most fresh fruit and vegetables have shown seasonal increases. The price of cheese also rose a little before the subsidy was introduced.'

Mr. Giles Shaw (Pudsey) asked for a statement on the latest movements of the Food Price Index and the Index of Retail Prices.

Mrs. Williams said: 'Between 19 February and 19 March, the latest date for which information is available, the Food Index rose by 1.1 per cent and the General Index of Retail Prices by 0.9 per cent.'

Mr. Ian Mikardo (Tower Hamlets, Bethnal Green and Bow) wanted to know the average increase in the wholesale and retail price of rice in the 12 months ending at the most recent date for which figures are available.

Mr. Maclennan said that on the basis of information collected for the purposes of the relevant indices, the wholesale and retail prices of rice rose by about 115 per cent in the 12 months ended March 1974.

Food subsidies

Mr. Ioan L. Evans (Aberdare) wanted to know how much HM Government have allocated to keep prices down by means of food subsidies; which food products have had their prices reduced as a result; and how this had affected the average family.

Mr. Maclennan said: 'The Government have allocated £380 million for food subsidies in the current financial year. The savings at the retail level as a result of the schemes already introduced are about 2p per pint on milk, 5½p per lb. on butter, 2p on large loaves of bread, 1p on small loaves, and 7p per lb. on eligible varieties of cheese. The total saving for a typical family of two adults and two children is estimated at about 60p per week.'

Mr. Silvester (Manchester, Withington) asked what proportion of the total expenditure so far committed to food subsidies would be received by households with incomes over £30 per week; and what proportion would be received by households with incomes under £30 per week.

Mrs. Williams replied: 'It is estimated that 76 per cent of the expenditure will be received by households with incomes above £30 per week, and 24 per cent by households with incomes below £30 per week. £30 per week is of course a very low figure for the purposes of comparisons of this kind. In 1972, average household income was £42.85, and at the present time is clearly even higher. Low-income families do, of course, spend a quarter on average part of their money on food and will therefore receive proportionally more benefit from the subsidies.'

'How much public money has been extended since 5 March, to the nearest convenient date, on food subsidies?' asked Mr. Aitken (Thanet, East).

'In the period up to 15 May, expenditure on food subsidies amounted to £42½ million,' said Mrs. Williams.

Mr. Leslie Huckfield (Nuneaton) asked if the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, was satisfied with the level and detail of information on profits submitted to her by companies in receipt of subsidies for bread and other food products.

Mrs. Williams replied: 'Profit margins are subject to the controls in the Price Code and as such are a matter for the Price Commission. I am satisfied that the subsidies benefit the consumer, not the manufacturer.'

Mr. Benyon (Buckingham) asked if steps would be taken to ensure that the subsidies for foriegn cheese benefited the consumer rather than the foreign producer.

'Yes,' said Mrs. Williams. 'Payments will be made to importers of cheese, and steps will be taken to ensure that the benefit of the subsidy is reflected in prices in the shops.'

Mr. Michael Latham (Melton) asked upon what criteria the decision to subsidise hard cheeses only were based.

Mr. Maclennan said: 'The primary intention was to subsidise Cheddar cheese, but to avoid distortion of trade it was necessary to include competing hard pressed and semi-hard pressed cheese.'

Tuesday, 21 May

Binder twine

Miss Quennell (Petersfield) stated that binder twine was approximately £155 per ton in 1973 and is now £680 per ton and asked if steps would be taken to reduce the price of this agricultural input.

Mr. Benn replied: 'I cannot reconcile the figures quoted with information available to my Department, but it is true that prices increased substantially – for sisal twine, from £203 to £372, and for polypropylene twine from £362 to £517 (as of April 1973 and 1974). The increases reflect the rise in world prices for the raw materials.'

European firms in Britain

Mr. John Brewis (Galloway) asked how many concerns based in other EEC member-states had indicated their intentions to set up or expand activities in Great Britain, since the UK's accession.

'We are aware of decisions by 49 such firms,' answered Mr. MacKenzie.

Newsprint supply

Mr. Edward Bishop (Newark) asked for an assessment regarding the future supply of newsprint in relation to future needs of the newspaper industry; and if steps would be taken to encourage the collection of wastepaper by local authorities and other means in order to increase available stocks.

Mr. Meacher replied: 'There may well be periods of newsprint scarcity such as obtains at present but I do not judge the likely effect to be crippling, especially in view of the self-help scheme organised by the UK Newsprint Users Committee. I am considering what contribution the Government can usefully make to a sustained increase in waste paper collection and usage.'

Trade names in Japan

Mr. Edward Bishop (Newark) said that the names of British manufacturing companies were being registered by Japanese companies in Japan and that this created problems for British exporters to Japan and asked if further representations would be made with the object of seeking to put an end to this practice.

'British exporters are strongly recommended to register their trade names and trade marks in their own name before they attempt to do any business in Japan,' answered Mr. Deakins. 'Representations have been made to the Japanese Government about the recent case in which a Japanese company registered a generic name for the tea blend "English Breakfast" and is now seeking to prevent other importers from selling in Japan tea bearing the same name. We regard this as unfair competition and different from those cases where British companies have merely failed to take appropriate steps to register their industrial property rights in the first place.'

Water charges

Mr. Caerwyn Roderick (Brecon and Radnor) asked if the Price Commission would investigate the question of differences between the charges being made by various water authorities in England and Wales.

'The application of the Price Code is a matter for the Price Commission but I understand they are examining the levels of charges in a number of water authorities', answered Mr. Maclennan. 'The Code applies to the circumstances of individual enterprises and it follows that comparisons between the levels of charges are not necessarily relevant.'

Parliament continued

Beef prices

Miss Quennell (Petersfield) asked if steps would be taken to ensure that a price nearer to the price to farmers for prime home-grown beef per lb. of 33-34p was available to the British housewife, instead of prices in excess of 100p per lb.

Mr. Maclennan answered: 'The Price Commission's action in notifying a 10 per cent cut in the gross profit margins of food distributors should be a useful contribution to reducing the disparity between producer and retail prices. This disparity covers such matter as the inevitable wastage in preparing carcases for retail sale, and labour, transport and other costs. I cannot accept, however, that the Hon. Member's figures are representative of retail beef prices. The Price Commission includes meat prices in its regular monitoring of fresh food prices and this shows a wide range of prices for beef. For example, on 25 April the average price for rump steak was just under 91p per lb and for the cheapest cut, brisket, just over 31p per lb.'

Wednesday, 22 May

Coastguard helicopter service

Mr. Peter Rees (Dover and Deal) wanted to know the cost in each of the past three years of the Coastguard helicopter service in East Kent.

Mr. Clinton Davis gave the following costs for the last three financial years:

1971/72: £112,900
1972/73: £143,100
1973/74: £184,400

'This excludes the salaries of Coastguard liaison officers and the facilities which exist on the airfield,' he said.

Mr. Rees also asked how many ships had been detected discharging oil in the Channel by the Coastguard helicopter service in each of the past three years.

'One,' said Mr. Clinton Davis, 'but considerably more reports have been received from other aircraft and ships.'

Mr. Rees then asked how many persons had been rescued in the Channel in each of the past three years by the service.

Mr. Clinton Davis said: 'The number of persons rescued by the Manston helicopter service were as follows:

1971 June-December: 34
1972 June-December: 85
1973 June-December: 56

'The service was not operating from January to May 1971.'

CAA report on regional airports

Mr. Frank Hooley (Sheffield, Heeley) asked when it was expected to receive the Report of the Civil Aviation Authority on Regional Airports; and for information as to its inclusion of details of the Stratford and Metra studies on airports in the North-East and Midlands, respectively.

Mr. Clinton Davis said: 'The Civil Aviation Authority are conducting a series of separate regional airport studies. The Stratford Report on the Northern Region was published on 9 May and the Authority hope to receive the METRA Report on Central England by about the beginning of June. We expect to have the Authority's advice on these two reports later in the year.'

Compensation for victims of aircraft disasters

Mr. Jack Ashley (Stoke-on-Trent, South) asked what consultations the Secretary of State for Trade had had with foreign Governments about international agreements concerning compensation for the victims of aircraft disasters.

Mr. Clinton Davis answered: 'As I indicated to the House during the debate on this subject on 16 May, representatives of civil aviation authorities of some dozen other European Governments have been invited to London at the end of this month for informal discussions, under the auspices of the Civil Aviation Authority, about the prospects of applying substantially higher limits of airline passenger liability; possibly along the general lines of what has already been done in this country by British Airways and by British Caledonian Airways. We would clearly hope that, if the discussions are fruitful, others too may perhaps take steps in a similar direction. Specifically, as regards the Guatemala Protocol, a move to ratify by the United States, which, could lead to its general ratification would of course be welcome. Accordingly we take every opportunity of pressing our concern about this matter.'

Plastic milk cartons

Details were requested by Mr. T. H. H. Skeet (Bedford) of the tonnage of milk bottles produced in the UK annually and similar figures for plastic milk cartons designed for rejection after use; and for the average number of times a 12 oz. milk bottle was likely to be used.

Mr. Meacher answered: 'The annual production of glass milk bottles is about 167,000 tons. Similar details for non-returnable plastic containers are not available. The life of a glass milk bottle averages 25 trips.'

National Enterprise Board

Mr. Skeet (Bedford) asked if the Secretary of State for Industry, had discussed his proposals for a NEB with the Commission in Brussels; and what information he had been given to whether the proposed corporation would meet the requirements of A86 of Community law.

Mr. Benn replied: 'I have had the opportunity of several informal meetings with members of the Commission at each of which I have briefly outlined our approach and drawn their attention to my Right Hon. Friend the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs speech at Luxembourg and our view that Parliament should retain essential powers in this field.'

Cheese subsidy

Mr. Richard Body (Holland with Boston) asked for a list of those cheeses, of which any substantial quantity is eaten in the United Kingdom, and in respect of which a consumer subsidy is not to be paid.

'The subsidy arrangements are estimated to cover nearly 95 per cent of consumption of cheese in the United Kingdom,' answered Mr. Maclennan. 'Precise information is not available on the consumption of the non-eligible cheeses, but it would seem that no single excluded variety accounts for a significant proportion of total supplies.'

Food prices

Mr. John MacGregor (South Norfolk) asked if the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, would list those world food prices lower than prevailing Community prices.

Mr. Maclennan answered: '"World" and EEC food prices are difficult to compare because of wide differences in the qualities of products, in grading and in methods of presentation of foodstuffs from various sources. At present some varieties of bacon, lard and tomatoes are available at lower prices from non-EEC countries; New Zealand butter is also cheaper.'

Thursday, 23 May

Mr. Kenneth Clarke (Rushcliffe) inquired about HMG's representations to the Government of Denmark about its increases in purchase tax on cars and household equipment.

Mr. Deakins said: 'We have actively participated in discussion of these measures with other Members of the Community, including Denmark herself. While we are concerned that action has been taken which will affect her imports, including some from Britain, we sympathise with Denmark's persistent economic difficulties and recognise her need to take further short-term action to help restore equilibrium.'

Export credit

Mr. John Stanley (Tonbridge and Malling) wanted to know the credit terms currently being offered by the government or quasi-government export credit organisations in each of the EEC countries.

Mr. Deakins answered: 'The credit terms supported by export credit organisations vary according to the nature and value of the goods. The terms supported by such organisations in EEC countries, including the UK, are in line with those supported by comparable organisations in other countries. Raw materials, semi-manufactures, consumer goods, spares and components are normally exported on repayment terms of up to six months credit; capital and semi-capital goods are sold on up to five years credit, but for substantial orders or for complete projects repayment periods of up to 10 years are common.'

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor should be addressed to the Editor, *Trade and Industry*, Room 437, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, and *not* to HMSO.

BOTB British Overseas Trade Board

A challenge – selling medical equipment to Japan

by A. R. J. Wise, managing director and editor, 'Health and Social Service Journal'

Japan is a large, wealthy and complex market. Her emergence in the past 10 years as the country second only in the non-Communist world to the USA in its gross national product is usually and precisely described as 'explosive' or, equally, as an 'economic miracle'.

Japan has a population of 110 million with a land area about the same as the United Kingdom. Only one-fifth of it is arable; the rest is mountainous – and very beautiful. Highly industrialised, most of the country's raw materials and some of the basic diet, rice, are imported. This means that Japan, like us, must live by exporting manufactured goods, but more of them.

It is difficult to conceive of anything that Japan cannot make for herself. She makes the world's largest tankers and her domestic. electronic and optical products are familiar throughout the world. But this article is concerned with the export of British medical equipment. For social, economic and scientific reasons Japan imports a large amount of medical equipment. It is doubtless a matter of economic priorities, although *all* advanced countries import as well as export a large amount of scientific, medical and surgical apparatus.

Medical background

Japan has 123,000 doctors and approximately 8,000 hospitals with about 1,100,000 beds. Over 10 per cent of the doctors work in national, prefectural or private university hospitals where standards are high by any measure and which are highly research-orientated. Others work in related (variously-linked) hospitals – national, prefectural, industrial, religious, and private – often with charity beds. All hospital doctors are notionally full-time and salaried.

But more than 50 per cent of doctors are 'private practitioners'. These are not GPs in the British sense; many have specialised as post-graduates in hospital departments for five or six years and many have their own in-patient 'clinics' which can legally contain up to 19 beds. There were 255,409 beds in such clinics at the end of 1971. One-third of all medical students are the sons of private practitioners. There is a women's medical school, but the number of women practising medicine is very small.

Health insurance is general. Everybody is covered by some form of pre-payment. Many of the schemes are run by industrial companies and these cover more than half the population. 'National health insurance' exists for the other half, which includes farmers, fishermen, self-employed people and their dependants. The medical and hospital services are financed by wage-earners, employers and government-levied taxes. Capital is often funded by the banks which, as in Germany, have the closest relationship with industry. A large company running its own insurance society may pay, as a fringe benefit, a larger share than on the nominal fifty-fifty basis.

Some people, doctors included, would like to see a tidier method of health care payment and delivery; but the non-system works reasonably well. There are no waiting lists, and the vast majority of the patients and doctors would not have things very different. No sweeping changes are likely for many years. Anyway, the Japanese are now living longer than we do in the West and, maybe, there is less morbidity, too.

Hospital costs are met on bases determined by the Minister of Health. Similarly, doctors are paid by a fee-for-service. The Minister in making these arrangements is guided by the Central Social Insurance Medical Council, which consists of representatives of the insurers, the professional providers and the public interest.

Each item of medical service is rated at a negotiated number of points and unit costs. Doctors would appear to be treated fairly well in relation to incomes generally but their payments are, nevertheless, the subject of continuous complaint by the powerful Japan Medical Association, led for many years by Dr. Taro Takemi. The threat to strike is not infrequent and a withdrawal of services did in fact take place for a month in 1971. The Prime Minister intervenes as required and compromise is generally arranged.

More than 40 per cent of all health expenditure is for drugs either chosen and bought direct by the public, or prescribed and dispensed by the physician himself or by the pharmacist employed at his clinic. The doctor receives fees for the prescription, and for dispensing, with a mark-up of 20/30 per cent on the actual cost of the drugs. As much as 40 per cent of a physician's income may be from prescribing and selling pharmaceuticals, and despite the over-prescribing involved in this method of payment, it will certainly not be changed until there is an equivalent upgrading of the points or units for other services.

The doctor, as in most countries, has a high degree of *noblesse oblige*. For hundreds of years Japan was affected from the outside world only by China. In the last two or three centuries visiting Portuguese and Dutch physicians made some impact, but a little more than 100 years ago Germany, then leading the world in medical science, brought about great changes in Japanese thinking.

The Japanese visited Germany for medical education, and German techniques and equipment remained dominant until the First World War and even later. Since the Second World War and the American occupation, the influence of the USA has been enormous. Japanese recovery has been largely with American money; Japanese doctors have absorbed American attitudes and techniques from post-graduate training in that country.

The purchasing decision

It has always been known that a familiarity with particular instruments and apparatus during a doctor's training would lead him to buy such equipment for his later hospital or private practice. And it should be said here that the doctor's influence upon decisions as to what equipment should be bought is even greater in Japan than elsewhere.

In looking round Japanese hospitals – admittedly the better university hospitals – one is impressed by the large amount of good and advanced equipment that is Japanese, or American.

The Japanese doctor, then, is influenced by both his long history and his recent past. An important reference here might

Orders worth £277,000 were taken at the first BOTB-sponsored British Medical Exhibition at the British Export, Marketing Centre in Tokyo during 23-27 April. The 24 British companies which took part expect an increase in sales of up to £1½ million over the next 12 months. Here Leslie Young, of J. E. Hanger and Co. Ltd. and Vessa Ltd., can be seen at the exhibition showing rehabilitation equipment to Dr. Taro Takemi, President of the Japan Medical Association. With them are Sir Fred Warner, British Ambassador (second from right) and Wally Crossland, of Portex Ltd.

be to his own university. Manufacturers selling into Japan are soon aware of the primacy of the individual doctor, but, seeing the influence of the Japan Medical Association on all aspects of medical care and its interaction with the Ministry of Health, might easily overlook one vital fact. This is the influence, through the university, of the Ministry of Education. Much advanced medical thinking flows both ways through this channel – Ministry of Education/university/ doctor.

The demand for health care is increasing in every country in the world. All manufacturing countries are increasing their export of medical equipment. Japan trebled her exports between 1968 and 1973, but within the same period doubled her imports.

The term 'medical equipment', if it is to include consumable medical supplies, can number 20/30,000 different items – most of these are demanded in a general hospital of average size. About 2,000 firms in Britain are contributing every possible product to this requirement. Most of the companies are small and specialised while others are departments of large engineering concerns with existing international networks. Not only is there very little that Britain does not make, but its equipment and supplies are at least as good and sometimes better than those of any other country. It is important to recognise that in recent years our prices in the world market have become highly competitive, although price is seldom the deciding factor in advanced countries.

Many British companies export successfully in the medical field, but very little of this goes to Japan. Our total world exports of medical equipment amounted in 1973 to £65 million and of this sum Japan accounted for only £1 million (Yen 650 million). This may be explained by the fact that until the last three or four years British equipment was almost unknown in that country, foreign supplies being dominated, for the good historical reasons I have mentioned, by the USA and Germany.

The British Government supports the effort of the medical industry in many ways – through the Department of Trade and its linked British Overseas Trade Board; through the Department of Health by surveys in depth of export markets conducted by experienced officers of the Supplies Section; by providing libraries of specific information in this country and at all embassies, whose commercial officers discover and maintain vital contacts and details of trading requirements; and by supporting the British Hospitals Export Council, an organisation of the leading British companies which arranges inward and outward missions and promotes exhibitions overseas.

In Japan our Embassy, together with the Department of Trade, runs a specially-built, well-equipped exhibition centre (British Export Marketing Centre) in Tokyo where various industries can show their products. About 20 exhibitions, some with conferences and seminars, are organised in this setting each year. A medical equipment exhibition was held very successfully during the last week of April in which 24 companies took part (*Trade and Industry*, 23 May 1974, page 396).

Medicine in Britain has long been of world-wide interest to doctors and leading doctors in most countries travel widely to discuss ideas and techniques. Nothing is more international than medicine.

We have always been in the forefront in the design of surgical instruments. For more than a decade we have established a leading place in manufacturing sterilising equipment and developing the necessary techniques and aseptic procedures using both steam and irradiation. Advances in this area have been stimulated by the Central Sterilising Club, consisting mostly of senior bacteriologists who work closely with technicians, nurses and manufacturers.

British prostheses, including implants – and the surgical skills with which they are used – are not surpassed elsewhere. This is also true of nuclear medicine. Monitoring electrical impulses in the body has for diagnostic and treatment purposes produced electronic equipment of the highest quality.

Our modular operating theatres, originally developed to upgrade existing hospitals, have quality and control advantages that can now be incorporated in new buildings without a financial premium.

Among the first countries to conceive and develop 'reablement' and the rehabilitation of the physically disabled, Britain has had private effort publicly supported. With modern technology this has produced innumerable aids. The implications in this field – medical, social and economic – take us far beyond the traditional medical field into the domestic market. In an allied area is our approach to geriatrics and to mental handicap. Information on a vast range of products can be obtained from The Disabled Living Foundation, 346 Kensington High Street, London W14.

Back to the market

The complexity of Japan's huge market for our products must be understood. In *Trading With Japan*, published by the Department of Trade and Industry three years ago, the statement appears 'It is unwise to suppose that, if there are no import restrictions, your product will be imported'. I spent an evening with several export manufacturers who had good agents, had created a demand, and had obtained import licences, but delays of many months ensued.

Not only must the product, price and after-sales service be guaranteed, but there must be personal contact, with leading members of the exporting firm living in Japan for some months. Good management must embody patience and persistence, and eventual success is then highly probable. Successful selling is being done, not only through skilled and enthusiastic agents, but through Japanese manufacturers who have their own distribution arrangements. Joint manufacturing arrangements should be considered.

And, remember, the market we are discussing is not necessarily confined to Japan; it is almost certainly South East Asia, with Japan as the base. One firm gave me details of a joint venture they were setting up which was also intended to penetrate African countries, with a market already guaranteed in Nigeria and the probability of manufacturing in that country.

BOTB News

Substantial market for British business and reproduction equipment in Japan

'A significant market potential for UK manufacturers and exporters exists in this market' according to *The Japanese Market for Business and Reproduction Equipment*, a report published on 21 May by the British Overseas Trade Board.

The report states that the Japan business equipment industry has sharply expanded in the past several years. The 1973 total production value of about Y320 billion represents a ninefold increase over the 1965 level of about Y34 billion. Furthermore, in 1973 the annual growth rate in terms of production value was recorded at over 40 per cent from 1972. This value growth occurred in spite of intensified competition in the electronic calculators market. This business equipment is expected to grow continuously in the future, supported largely by office labour shortages and required performance improvement.

'In this market a number of foreign brands have been successfully marketed, most of which emphasise technological advances. We envisage this tendency will continue in the future.'

Commenting on the opportunities for joint ventures, licensing or other forms of co-operation with Japanese suppliers, the report considers that for UK enterprises good opportunities should exist in technologically advanced products, specialised products and any other products which are not readily available in Japan.

The report covers potential customers by type of industry, distribution systems, technical requirements and standards, import restrictions, delivery and warranties. It provides an in-depth analysis of the sales potential for 21 different product groups: electronic cash registers, portable calculators, office furniture, office copiers, offset litho duplicators, desktop electronic calculators, plate-making equipment, automatic filing systems, typewriters, document shredders, stencil duplicators, accounting machines, mechanical cash registers, fire resistant storage equipment and safes, addressing systems, paper sheet counters, bank note counters, card cabinet systems, card index systems, statistics charting systems, and security equipment. In evaluating these product groups the report comments on those market sectors which offer British industry the best export opportunities.

The report was prepared for the British Overseas Trade Board by Price, Waterhouse & Co., Tokyo. It is available to British manufacturers, price £5 post free, from the Central Library, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

Monsieur Crillardin, Director of the Public Building Department of Luxembourg's Ministry of Public Works, is pictured (right) during a visit to the W. S. Atkins Group, consulting engineers, Epsom. He visited Britain as a guest of the British Overseas Trade Board. Left to right: W. D. Tattersall, technical director, sales management; Mrs. J. Overington, public relations; A. G. Sheppard Fidler, architect; P. M. Worthington, director; W. S. Atkins, chairman; Madame Crillardin; K. R. Timmins, BOTB; and Monsieur Crillardin.

R. H. Macy and Co., the London buying house for some of the biggest department stores in the United States, present a plaque to British suppliers achieving a three-year record of an annual shipment exceeding $10,000. Eighteen firms have qualified, and the most recent presentation was made to Robin D. A. Riley, general sales manager of Arnold E. Williams & Sons Ltd., Birmingham silversmiths who have been supplying Macy's for over 15 years. J. Keith Harwood, Macy's managing director in London, is handing over the plaque, and is accompanied by Royston F. Fisher, his assistant manager (merchandising).

British group strikes it rich at offshore technology show

From W. C. Hodgkins, MBE, Consul (Commercial Information), British Consulate-General, Houston: The 6th annual Offshore Technology Conference, held in the Astrohall, Houston, 6-8 May, has gone from strength to strength since its inception and is now acknowledged as the leading world forum for the offshore oil and gas industry. This year the 32,400 visitors, including many from all over the world, could tour 1,226 exhibition booths and participate in 36 technical sessions in the convention programme. The whole of the Astrohall, with an exhibit area of 172,470 sq. ft., was occupied and pressure for space was such that a temporary building providing 15,000 sq. ft. was erected in addition to outdoor areas provided for working demonstrations of larger oil field equipment and machinery.

The international importance and flavour of the conference was illustrated not only by the large numbers of foreign visitors but by the increased numbers of foreign exhibits. Apart from independent exhibitors there were group displays by Norway (27 firms in 7,200 sq. ft.), France (24 firms), Canada (17 firms), Germany FR (11 firms), Sweden (10 firms), Japan (9 firms) and the United Kingdom whose 7,700 sq. ft. was the largest area of the foreign exhibitors.

The main British exhibit was, for the second year in succession, a joint venture sponsored by the British Overseas Trade Board and the Association of British Oceanic Industries who appointed Overseas Exhibition Services Ltd. to assist them in the detailed organisation of the British group.

Products and services

The 35 firms in the group displayed a wide range of products and services relating to offshore oil exploration, the centre piece of the display being a Ruston TB4000 gas turbine weighing 24 tons.

Other products and services included life rafts and jackets, industrial clothing, nodes, piles, heat exchangers, boilers, electronic and pneumatic instrumentation equipment, hydrodynamic research programmes, industrial gases, anchors, design and contracting services, mooring buoys, dynamic ship positioning systems, electric motors, generators, switchgear, cables, transformers, welding equipment, pumps and compressors, geophysical services, drilling contractors, diving services, valves, oil related publications, repair and renting of oil tools, cranes, winches, tanks, logistic services.

In addition to the official British stand, three Scottish banks, a London-based merchant bank and several other British firms displayed their products and services independently.

Almost without exception the British exhibitors were enthusiastic about the show and its organisation, as well as with opportunities presented for potential business and for studying the latest developments in offshore technology. Most expressed their intention to return in 1975 preferably with even more exhibit space.

But the British exhibitors, important as they were, represented only a part of the British participation at OTC this year. In addition to the joint venture, the British Overseas Trade Board also sponsored two official missions, one in conjunction with ABOI consisting of 25 members, and also a 21-member mission in co-operation with the London Chamber of Commerce.

The largest contingent was that organised by the *Aberdeen Press and Journal* in conjunction with the North East Scotland Development Authority and the Highlands and Islands Development Board, consisting of about 110 members including the Lord Provost of Aberdeen and a champion caber tosser and girl piper. This group co-operated with the local Heather and Thistle Society organising a Highland Games followed by Highland Ball.

Authorities and organisations

Another group, also from Scotland, consisting of 32 members organised by the Scotland West Industrial Promotion Group, joined at a later stage by the Lord Provost of Glasgow. The members of these groups and other known British visitors amounted to 300 or more and estimates have been made that total British visitors could be well in excess of 500. Among these visitors were a few from various development authorities and organisations in Britain.

The importance of British participation in OTC was demonstrated when arrangements were made for Dr. Gavin Strang, Parliamentary-Under Secretary of State for the Department of Energy to visit Houston 5-7 May. Unfortunately, Dr. Strang was unable to attend because of Parliamentary business but Sir Jack Rampton, KCB, Permanent Secretary of the Department of Energy, attended in his place.

In addition to touring the official exhibit and independent British exhibits at OTC – accompanied by Captain W. O. Shelford, Chairman of ABOI, John Ford, CMG, Director-General of the British Trade Development Office, New York, Peter Gibson, Director of the Offshore Supplies Office, London and HM Consul-General, Roy Fox, OBE – he gave a speech on British involvement in the UK offshore oil industry at a reception at the residence of HM Consul-General which was attended by leading oil industry representatives and the communications media. Sir Jack Rampton also attended a dinner and two lunches organised in his honour by leading oil industry firms and visited several other firms.

Another indication of the importance of this show to the British offshore oil industry was the attendance of a large number of British Government officials including nine from the Offshore Supplies Office of the Department of Energy. Some of them and many other British visitors interested in welding techniques in the offshore oil industry were able to visit the Welding Show being held in downtown Houston at the same time.

Inquiries and information

These British Government officials and the British Consulate-General in Houston manned a joint information stand adjoining one organised by the Association of British Oceanic Industries and manned by Captain Shelford, Chairman, and Mr. Mike Armstrong, Director-General. These information stands handled many inquiries not only from American firms wanting information on prospects in the UK offshore oil industry but from the many British visitors at the show. They soon became a central co-ordinating point for British visitors as well as exhibitors. A reception organised by the ABOI next door to the Astrohall on the evening of 7 May, attended by over 350 guests, also presented an opportunity for further contacts.

In view of the resounding success of the British participation at OTC this year it is confidently expected that the British exhibit will be even larger next year (if extra space is available). Even more groups and individual visitors are likely to be in Houston for next year's show which is being extended by an additional day and will be held once again at the Astrohall, 5-8 May. Further information can be obtained from the Fairs and Promotions Branch of the Department of Trade, Tower Block, Hillgate House, 26 Old Bailey, London EC4.

Wiesbaden: pet trades fair shows healthy growth

From Mrs. R. S. Holmes, Vice-Consul, British Consulate-General, Frankfurt: The 13th International Pet Trades Fair – INTERZOO – was held 10-12 May at the Wiesbaden Rhein-Main-Halle where 215 exhibitors from 10 countries displayed (on a net exhibition area of 9,000 square metres) a wide range of all kinds of pet supplies. Exhibits included dog, cat and fish food; harnesses, leads, collars and coats; pet toys, health and grooming aids for dogs and cats; all kinds of baskets, beds, cages and carrier bags for birds, dogs and cats, as well as the latest and most sophisticated aquarium supplies.

INTERZOO, rated one of the world's leading events for the pet trades, attracted more than 7,000 trade buyers of which about 1,000 were non-German visitors from 26 countries.

The pet trades are experiencing a healthy growth, reflected in a 10 per cent increase in the number of exhibitors and a 25 per cent increase in the number of visitors. There were strong contingents of visitors from France (250), the Netherlands (154), Belgium (152) and the United Kingdom (134), as well as from the USA, Japan, Australia and Canada.

The International Pet Trades Organisation, of which the associations in the United Kingdom, the Federal Republic of Germany and the Netherlands are founder members, held its annual meeting to coincide with the fair, at which France, Belgium and Denmark became new members with the USA and Australia expressing readiness to join in the near future. One of the Organisation's current principal aims is to obtain EEC recognition as an advisory body to the pet trades industry.

The United Kingdom was once again strongly represented and with 22 exhibitors constituted the largest contingent after that of the Federal Republic. Italy was represented by nine firms, the Netherlands by eight, followed by Austria (4), Switzerland (3), France (3) and Belgium and the United States with one firm each. Of the British firms 18 were in a joint venture sponsored by BOTB in collaboration with the Pet Trades Association, which had an information stand.

The British group occupied attractively-designed stands – one section pictured above – located on a prominent site in a bright, newly-built hall. This drew favourable and envious comments from other exhibitors and visitors alike and the joint venture stands were thronged with visitors throughout the fair.

The majority of British exhibitors are regular participants in this important event and most of them have established agents and distributors in the Federal Republic and most other European countries. The fair provided, once again, an excellent opportunity for them to meet overseas agents and customers and practically all exhibitors were able to make valuable new contracts with customers from all over the world.

Newcomers to Wiesbaden were impressed and gratified by the great interest shown in their products and the volume of inquiries received which they feel confident will result in serious and sizeable orders.

The British exhibitors were unanimous that their participation had been thoroughly worthwhile and most of them found their expectations far surpassed by the results achieved. All agreed that it was essential to exhibit regularly at Wiesbaden and expressed their intention of participating in the 1976 INTERZOO.

American agent snaps up microfilm kit

From G. A. Kent, British Consulate-General, Boston: 'Save Space – Go Micro' might have been the theme of the 23rd Annual Conference and Exhibition of the National Microfilm Association which was held in the J. B. Hynes Auditorium in Boston from 7 to 10 May 1974.

The exhibition itself, which occupied 41,000 sq. ft. of space, attracted over 100 exhibitors and an attendance of over 9,000. Much interest was aroused by the Computer Output Microfilm (COM) systems displayed by various domestic firms. Business in these complex systems is currently estimated to be running at about $65 million annually. Sales are expected to reach $150 million by 1977.

The accompanying technical seminars covered subjects ranging from basic technology to the commercial prospects for micropublishing, COM software, computer versus microfilm retrieval, copyright, and the environmental problems associated with photoprocessing effluents.

Two British groups participated in a joint venture under the joint sponsorship of the Drawing Materials Manufacturers and Dealers Association and the Department of Trade. Caps Microfilm Ltd. and Scottish Instruments Ltd. have exhibited on previous occasions and report that the Boston show was a rewarding experience.

Caps Microfilm Ltd. and their associate companies Howard Smith Precision Optics Ltd., Venex Technical Developments Ltd., and Imaging Technology Ltd. displayed a range of Reader-printers. Their electrostatic M9E microfilm printer won very favourable comments and expressions of interest from at least 10 US companies. A large part of the Caps Microfilm Ltd. exhibit was destined for and delivered to their American agent at the end of the show.

Scottish Instruments Ltd. had on display their enlarger printers and a range of readers including a portable microfilm reader. The latter attracted much attention from the industry generally as well as the active interest of one substantial domestic company in particular.

Italians flock to admire sheer quality

From M. W. P. Cronly-Dillon, British Trade Representative, Bari: For the last nine years the Italian research experimental station for sheep at Foggia has been importing a small number of British rams for cross breeding purposes in an attempt to ameliorate the local sheep both in respect of wool and meat. Some of the British rams proved unsuitable owing to the climate and pasture but for the last three years experiments with imported Dorset Down sheep have given excellent results. These experiments were closely followed by local breeders who, some years ago also began importing Dorset Downs for breeding.

Because of this interest a joint venture at the XXV International Agricultural and Cattle Fair at Foggia, 30 April-8 May, was organised by the British Agricultural Export Council to which some members of the British National Sheep Association participated. These included Mr. C. G. Hyde, chairman N.S.A.; Mr. A. Veitch, B.B.E., T.F., F.I.A. (Scot.) Est. Chairman, Mr. R. Wear and Mr. J. Ironmonger, members of the Association and sheep farmers.

The sheep on show included Dorset Down, Finnish Landrace, Colbred, Jacob and Ryeland. Apart from the Dorset Down, the others are completely new to the area and local breeders were enthusiastic over the merits and qualities of these animals.

There was a constant stream of visitors, mostly sheep breeders and farmers to the stand which, apart from an initial order of £3,500, resulted in firm orders from breeders for £13,000 and second class orders for the next season for £16,000. In addition there were several small individual inquiries which may result in purchase as well as some for regular consignments of lamb carcasses, amounting to over £3,000 per week, if and when import and export regulations are relaxed.

The Wool Board also collaborated and supplied a small quantity of British knitwear and wool ties for show. Within the first three days the entire stock was sold out. Unfortunately, the reply to a telephone call to London to send further supplies immediately was that they could not possibly reach Foggia before the end of the Fair.

The success of this venture was, to a large extent, due to the enthusiasm of the President of the Foggia Sheep Breeder's Association, Dott. L. Ferrara, who, with the kind assistance of the Secretary-General of the Fair, Dott. A. Vitulli, organised meetings to which the most important local breeders were invited and at which the characteristics, qualities and merits of the various breeds on show were explained.

The members of the British National Sheep Association were very satisfied with the results of their participation and expressed the hope that a similar but expanded joint venture could be repeated for the Foggia Fair in 1975.

American supermarts find our goods to their taste

From D. H. Cooper, British Consulate, Dallas, Texas: The 37th Annual Convention (and exhibition) of the Supermarket Institute (SMI) closed its doors at the Convention Center in Dallas on 8 May after four days of meetings and a full programme of workshops/panel discussions which backed up the display of food products, equipment for the food trade and of other goods sold in supermarkets. Some 12,000 SMI members and other trade only visitors toured the stands of some 600 exhibitors over a gross exhibit area of more than 400,000 square feet. Foreign participation, which was heavier than in previous years, included a joint venture of British companies sponsored by the British Food Export Council and supported by the British Overseas Trade Board for the second year running, and exhibits from France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Denmark, Norway and Quebec. Products from other countries, eg Poland, Romania and Austria, were also featured on the stands of American importer/distributors.

The British section consisted of eight companies: Associated Biscuits, Matlows/Swizzells, Baxters of Scotland, United Biscuits, Twinings of London, Smedley-HP Foods, Columbus Dixon and Glywed Integrated Services Ltd., with an information stand manned by the British Food Export Council. Other British exhibitors outside the joint venture included Cadbury-Schweppes and Yardleys.

Exports of British processed food to the US reached a record of £26.3 million in 1973 (an increase of 21 per cent over 1972) and we confidently expect to continue to rise. Six of the British exhibitors (four of whom also participated last year) are already well established in the US market, and their aims were to support their long term commitment to penetrate this super-sized market and to back up their distributors. The other two members of the joint venture – Columbus Dixon and Glynwed – were not so well, or not at all established in the US prior to the Convention and their particular aim was accordingly to attract distributor and user interest and inquiries. Reaction from all British exhibitors was most enthusiastic, and all eight joint-venture members plan to repeat their participation next year.

This emphasises the importance of the Supermarket Convention, alongside the National Food and Confection Show in the United States, for British food and confectionery manufacturers in particular. But the success of Columbus Dixon in finding a local distributor for their floor cleaning machines and of Glynwed in attracting serious user and distributor interest for their store shelving systems not only in the US but also in Canada underline its value for non-food manufacturers as well. The convention indeed covers a wide range of products and it is hoped that more companies from more walks of life will seize the opportunity for joint-venture participation in 1975. British companies already active in the US market or able to meet volume demand for their products should contact their Department of Trade Regional Office, Fairs and Promotions Branch of the British Overseas Trade Board in London or the British Food Export Council for further information. Where appropriate, they should also study the detailed US market survey for food and confectionery issued by the Trade Development office in New York through the Export Intelligence Service in February of this year.

BOTB aiding exhibitors at two big German shows

Over 70 British firms are taking part in two major German exhibitions during this month and in June. These joint venture displays are sponsored by two trade associations in collaboration with the British Overseas Trade Board.

INTERSTOFF: Frankfurt International Textiles for Clothing Exhibition, 27-30 May – This bi-annual event is the largest clothing fabrics exhibition in Europe and 62 British firms will participate under the auspices of the National Wool Textile Export Corporation and BOTB. They will display all kinds of fabrics and textiles, both natural and man-made, together with a selection of buttons and trimmings.

FAB: Stuttgart Exhibition for Hospital Equipment and Supplies, 18-21 June – The British contingent of 14 firms will be jointly supported by the British Hospitals Export Council and BOTB. They will present a variety of medical and allied products including surgical instruments, operating tables, hospital beds, patient handling equipment, specialised surgical dressings and modular operating theatres.

During 1974 the British Overseas Trade Board will be sponsoring joint ventures in 57 exhibitions and promotional events, for both capital and consumer goods in Western Germany, in which 1,700 British firms will participate.

Export Business

The first two of an order for three HM2 hovercraft arrived in Rio de Janeiro this month. The craft, manufactured by Hovermarine Transport Ltd. of Southampton, will undertake a fast passenger ferry service across Guanabara Bay between the cities of Rio and Niteroi in competition with Italian-built hydrofoils.

Mobile health clinics going out to Algeria

Gordon L. Poole and Co. Ltd. of Southampton reports securing a further contract with the Algerian Ministry of Public Health for the supply of 50 mobile health clinics for shipment during 1974. The contract will include mobile dental units, blood donor units and dispensaries.

This is a repeat of a similar contract signed in 1973. Gordon Poole states that it was obtained in the face of intensive competition from France and two East European countries – which this time had the advantage of the British company's specification and also the knowledge of the price tendered in the previous year.

Gordon Poole had to satisfy Société Nationale de Construction Mécanique, the Algerian State Motor Industry, that the units being supplied from England could not be manufactured or built under licence by them.

These negotiations took six months to conclude after searching examination and scrutiny of specifications.

Gordon Poole has now sold its entire output for export during this year and well into 1975 and has recently secured a substantial order from Japan following orders this year from Abu Dhabi, Cameroon, Syria and Saudi Arabia.

New institute presents export seminar

The World Trade Centre at St. Katharine-by-the-Tower, London E1, has established a World Trade Institute to provide courses on practical exporting. Its first course will be a one-day seminar, 13 June, called 'Profit for the Exporter: the Implications of Floating Exchange Rates'.

Appropriately, in view of the subject, the seminar will be held on board the 400-ton steam yacht, the *St. Katharine*, the British Safety Council's training ship berthed in the west basin of the World Trade Centre yacht haven next to Tower Bridge.

The organisers will give free one-day berthing facilities to businessmen who want to travel to London to the seminar by boat.

Further details of the seminar can be obtained from Miss Angela Batchelor, Conference Secretary, London World Trade Centre, London E1.

Moon shines bright – can drum up overseas trade

A major export contract for can and drum making equipment has been won by Moon Brothers Ltd. of Beaufort Road, Birkenhead. The order, for the Jordan Petroleum Refinery Co. Ltd., of Amman, comprises a complete drum line and two plants for the production of cans.

This is the second major order from the Middle East which has been won by Moon Brothers during the past few months. Early in 1973 the company received an order from Shell International for a can making plant in Libya.

Moon Brothers is to supply equipment for the production of 46 gallon oil drums, 22½ in. diameter × 34¾ in. high, at a rate of 170 drums per eight-hour day. Drum reconditioning equipment, with an output of 130 drums per eight hour day, is also to be supplied.

The drum line comprises a guillotine shear for trimming and sizing blank sheets which then pass through bending rolls and are welded on British Federal equipment.

Two can lines are being supplied. The first is for the production of one litre cans, 101 mm diameter × 147 mm high, at rates of 500 per hour with either screw neck or tight head. The second line produces 5 litre rectangular cans, 178 × 121 × 265 mm, at a rate of 260 per hour.

An engineer at Leevers-Rich Equipment Ltd., London SE18, checking one of a batch of tape recorders for use by British Information Services abroad. Leevers-Rich Type E200 rack-mounted ¼-inch machines to a Central Office of Information specification have been ordered by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office for use in Canberra and Ottawa.

New EC Legislation

The legislation listed below has been published in the 'Official Journal of the European Communities' as indicated against each item. The 'Official Journal' is now published in English and copies should be obtained from HMSO. Information about the items listed, in so far as exports are concerned, is available from Department of Trade, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel. 01-248 5757 ext. 7174/482/408). Other information may be obtained from the reference point given at the end of the item.

Applications for copies of the *Official Journal of the European Communities* containing the legislation referred to should be made to HMSO and not to the inquiry points given in the notices.

COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY. The texts of the following Regulations which affect the various agricultural sectors in the EEC have been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities.*

Flax and hemp. Regulation (EEC) 1117/74 fixing the amount of aid for flax and hemp for the 1974/75 marketing year. (*Official Journal* L128, 10 May 1974).

Oils, fats and oilseeds. Regulation (EEC) 1118/74 fixing the amount of aid for cotton seeds for the 1974/75 marketing year. (*Official Journal* L128, 10 May 1974).

Regulation (EEC) 1121/74 fixing the production and market target prices and the intervention price for olive oil for the 1974/75 marketing year. (*Official Journal* L128, 10 May 1974).

Regulation (EEC) 1122/74 fixing the target prices and basic intervention prices for oil seeds for the 1974/75 marketing year. (*Official Journal* L128, 10 May 1974)

Regulation (EEC) 1123/74 fixing the main intervention centres for oil seeds for the 1974/75 marketing year and the derived intervention prices applicable in these centres. (*Official Journal* L128, 10 May 1974)

Regulation (EEC) 1176/74 amending Regulation (EEC) 470/73 laying down general rules for the application of the compensatory amounts applicable to colza and rape seed produced in the new Member States. (*Official Journal* L129, 11 May 1974).

Regulation (EEC) 1222/74 amending the Annex to Regulation (EEC) 225/67 on coefficients of equivalence for colza and rape seeds. (*Official Journal* L133, 16 May 1974).

Pigs and pigmeat. Regulation (EEC) 1133/74 fixing the basic price and the standard quality for slaughtered pigs for the period from 1 November 1974 to 31 October 1975 (*Official Journal* L128, 10 May 1974).

Tobacco. Regulation (EEC) 1134/74 fixing the norm prices, the intervention prices and the reference qualities for leaf tobacco from the 1974 harvest. (*Official Journal* L128, 10 May 1974)

Regulation (EEC) 1135/74 fixing the derived intervention prices and the reference qualities for baled tobacco from the 1974 harvest. (*Official Journal* L128, 10 May 1974):

Cereals and rice. Regulation (EEC) 1125/74 amending Regulation (EEC) 120/67 on the common organisation of the market in cereals. (*Official Journal* L128, 10 May 1974).

Regulation (EEC) 1126/74 fixing cereal prices for the 1974/75 marketing year. (*Official Journal* L128, 10 May 1974).

Regulation (EEC) 1127/74 fixing, for the 1974/75 marketing year, the monthly price increases for cereals, wheat and rye flour and wheat groats and meal. (*Official Journal* L128, 10 May 1974)

Regulation (EEC) 1128/74 determining, for the 1974/75 marketing year the single intervention prices for barley, rye, durum wheat and maize and the principal marketing centres for common wheat and the derived intervention prices applicable at those centres. (*Official Journal* L128, 10 May 1974).

Regulation (EEC) 1129/74 amending Regulation (EEC) 359/67 on the common organisation of the market in rice. (*Official Journal* L128, 10 May 1974)

Regulation (EEC) 1130/74 fixing the target price for husked rice for the 1974/75 marketing year. (*Official Journal* L128, 10 May 1974)

Regulation (EEC) 1131/74 fixing intervention prices for paddy rice for the 1974/75 marketing year. (*Official Journal* L128, 10 May 1974)

Regulation (EEC) 1132/74 on production refunds in the cereals and rice sectors. (*Official Journal* L128, 10 May 1974).

Regulation (EEC) 1223/74 derogating from Regulation (EEC) 2637/70 as regards the period of validity of expert licences for cereals and rice. (*Official Journal* L133, 16 May 1974).

Seeds and plants. Regulation (EEC) 1119/74 amending the Annex to Regulation (EEC) 2358/71 on the common organisation of the market in seeds and Regulation (EEC) 1674/72 laying down general rules for granting and financing aid for seeds. (*Official Journal* L128, 10 May 1974).

Regulation (EEC) 1120/74 fixing the amounts of aid for seeds for the 1974/75 marketing year. (*Official Journal* L128, 10 May 1974)

Poultrymeat and eggs. Regulation (EEC) 1180/74 on limiting monetary compensatory amounts in eggs and poultrymeat. (*Official Journal* L129, 11 May 1974).

Wine. Regulation (EEC) 1136/74 fixing the guide prices for wine for the period from 16 December 1974 to 15 December 1975. (*Official Journal* L128, 10 May, 1974).

EUROTARIFF

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Regulation (EEC) 1198/74 amending Regulation (EEC) 3304/73 derogating from Regulation (EEC) 1437/70 on storage contracts for table wine by substituting the date, 30 September 1974 for 30 April 1974 in Article 1. (*Official Journal* L131, 14 May 1974)

Regulation (EEC) 1199/74 providing for a temporary derogation from Regulation (EEC) 1769/72 concerning the accompanying documents in the wine sector. (*Official Journal* L131. 14 May 1974)

Regulation (EEC) 1221/74 on private storage aid for table wines standing in close economic relationship with table wines of the type A I. (*Official Journal* L133, 16 May 1974)

Dehydrated fodder. Regulation (EEC) 1192/74 on aid for dehydrated fodder. (*Official Journal* L131, 14 May 1974)

Live plants and products of the flower growing industry. Regulation (EEC) 1207/74 fixing the minimum prices for exports to third countries of corms, bulbs and tubers of begonias, dahlias, gladioli and sinningias. (*Official Journal* L132, 15 May 1974)

Milk and milk products. Regulation (EEC) 1241/74 amending Regulation (EEC) 1259/72 on the disposal of butter at a reduced price to certain Community processing undertakings. (*Official Journal* L134, 17 May 1974)

Fruit and vegetables. Regulation (EEC) 1242/74 fixing the reference prices for cherries for the 1974 marketing year. (*Official Journal* L134, 17 May 1974)

Regulation (EEC) 1243/74 fixing the reference prices for plums for the 1974 marketing year. (*Official Journal* L134, 17 May 1974)

Regulation (EEC) 1244/74 fixing the reference prices for peaches for the 1974 marketing year. (*Official Journal* L134, 17 May 1974)

EEC/FINLAND – CUSTOMS MATTERS: The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L102, 11 April 1974 contains the texts of:

Regulation (EEC) No 840/74 of the Council of 21 March 1974 on the application of Decision Nos 3/74, 4/74, 5/74, 6/74 and 7/74 of the EEC/Finland Joint Committee on customs matters

Decision No 3/74 of the Joint Committee of 29 January 1974 amending Protocol No 3 concerning the definition of the concept of 'originating products' and methods of administrative co-operation

Decision No 4/74 of the Joint Committee of 29 January 1974 laying down the methods of administrative co-operation in the customs field for the purpose of implementing the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Finland

Decision No 5/74 of the Joint Committee of 29 January 1974 on Protocol No 3 concerning the definition of the concept of 'originating products' and methods of administrative co-operation

Decision No 6/74 of the Joint Committee of 29 January 1974 supplementing and amending Article 24 and 25 of Protocol No 3 concerning the definition of the concept of 'originating products' and methods of administrative co-operation

Decision No 7/74 of the Joint Committee of 29 January 1974 amending Annex II to Protocol No 3 concerning the definition of the concept of 'originating products' and methods of administrative co-operation

Further information: Department of Trade, Tariff Division, Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ, tel. 01-222 7877 ext. 5713/5750 (origin rules). HM Customs and Excise, International Customs, Division E, Branch 4, Adelaide House, London Bridge, London EC4R 9DB, tel. 01-626 1515 ext. 2385 (documentation)

EEC Information Unit

The Department of Industry's EEC Information Unit helps firms of all types and sizes by answering general questions about the effects of entry into the EEC and by guiding them where necessary to more specialised information sources. New customers are always welcome, particularly firms new to EEC questions.

The unit's address is: EEC Information Unit, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET. Tel: 01-222 7877 extensions 5377 or 3579

Services to exporters

The following Government offices provide services for UK exporters

Headquarters

Export Services and Promotions Division
Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU
Tel. 01-248 5757. Telex 886143 DTI EXPORT LDN

Regional

Office for Scotland
314 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow G3 8XF
Tel. 041-248 2855. Telex 77583 DTI GLASGOW

Inverness District Office
Caledonia House, 63/67 Academy Street, Inverness IV1 1LU
Tel. (0463) 30867

Office for Wales
Government Buildings, Gabalfa, Cardiff CF4 4YI.
Tel. (0222) 62131. Telex 49267 DTI CARDIFF

Yorkshire and Humberside Regional Office
City House, New Station Street, Leeds LS1 4JQ
Tel. (0532) 38232. Telex 557470 DTI LEEDS

Northern Regional Office
Wellbar House, Gallowgate, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 4TR
Tel. (0632) 27575. Telex 53178 DTI NTYNE

Cumberland and Westmorland District Office
Town Hall, Cockermouth, Cumberland CA13 9NP
Tel. (090-082) 3498/9. Telex 64173 DTI COCKERMOUTH

North-Western Regional Office
Sunley Building, Piccadilly Plaza, Manchester M1 4BA
Tel. 061-236 2171. Telex 667104 DTI MCHR

West-Midlands Regional Office
Ladywood House, Stephenson Street, Birmingham B2 4DT
Tel. 021-632 4111. Telex 337021 DTI BHAM

East-Midlands Regional Office
Cranbrook House, 47 Cranbrook Street, Nottingham NG1 1ES
Tel. (0602) 46121. Telex 37143 DTI NOTTM

South-Western Regional Office
The Pithay, Bristol BS1 2PB
Tel. (0272) 291071. Telex 44214 DTI BRISTOL

Northern Ireland Department of Commerce
Chichester House, 64 Chichester Street, Belfast BT1 4JX
Tel. (0232) 34488. Telex 747025 GOVNI BELFAST

Trade Information

Look westwards to Canada

Eric Deakins, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Trade, said in London last week that there was too much tendency in Britain to see the nation's trading future overwhelmingly in European terms. Addressing a meeting of the Canada-UK Committee, Mr. Deakins said:

"Growth of Anglo-Canadian trade has failed to keep pace with the faster expansion of both our countries' dealings with the rest of the world. In particular, the United States has become more firmly entrenched as Canada's major trading partner, while for us trade with Europe has become increasingly important. It may comfort some people to know that last year – per head of her population – Canada bought about two-and-a-half times as much from Britain as did the United States; and outside Europe, Canada is still Britain's second largest overseas supplier.

'Nevertheless, I feel that there has been too much of a tendency in Britain to see our trading future overwhelmingly in European terms. Much has been made of the fact that the European Community is now Britain's biggest market, taking a third of our total exports. It is only natural that firms should try to seize the potential it offers.

'By the same token it is imperative that the other two-thirds are accorded their rightful place in exporters' plans. I hope more and more British firms will look westwards to Canada which can, I believe, become an increasingly important market for us. It is more self-sufficient in natural resources than our other major markets. It is a net exporter of oil and probably has more favourable growth prospects too.

'What of Canada and the EEC? The enlarged Community is easily Canada's second most important trading partner. There were people who said that Britain's membership of the EEC would diminish the importance of Anglo-Canadian trade. So far, I am happy to say, this has not been the case. Last year our exports to Canada were nearly a tenth more than in 1972, while our imports from Canada increased by over one-fifth. I want to emphasise again that our accession to the European Community does not lessen the importance we attach to our links with Canada.

'The British Government is committed to fundamental renegotiation of the terms of our entry into the EEC. The Foreign Secretary has explained to the Council of Ministers why we think the present terms are not right for Britain and which particular subjects we will wish to raise with our Community partners.

'One of our main objectives will be to secure major changes in the Common Agricultural Policy so that it ceases to be a threat to world trade in food products and so that low-cost producers outside Europe can continue to have access to the British food market. We also want a stable, healthy and co-operative relationship with Canada and other countries with whom Europe's life is intimately connected.

'I believe there is within the Community some sympathy with our difficulties. The Government is right now appraising the effect on us of Community policies and we shall put our case to the Council of Ministers. Our wish is a successful renegotiation from which the right terms for continued membership of the Community will emerge. These terms will then be put to the British people, probably in a referendum, so that they can have the final decision on whether or not the UK remains a member. As members we have a constructive role to play in helping to shape the enlarged Community's relations with the rest of the world and making it outward looking in GATT negotiations.'

Anglo-Soviet Joint Commission communique

The following communique was issued in London on 22 May at the conclusion of the meeting of the Anglo-Soviet Joint Commission:

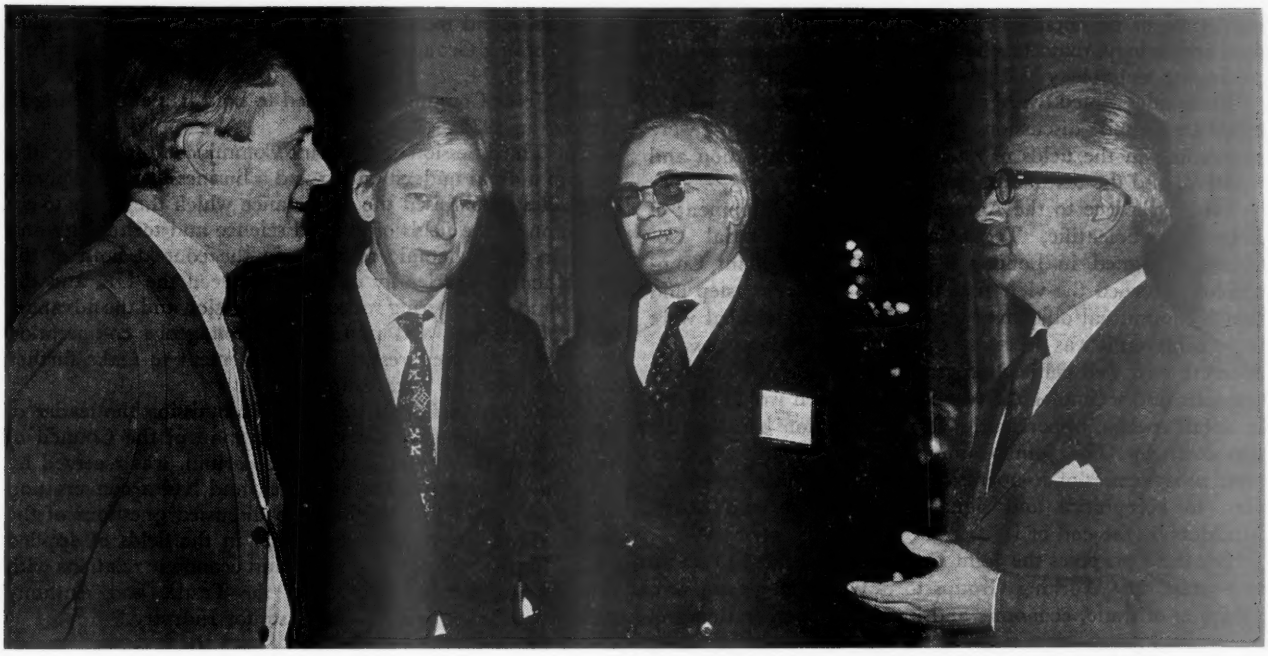
'The third meeting of the Permanent UK/USSR Inter-Governmental Commission for Co-operation in the fields of Applied Science, Technology, Trade and Economic Relations (hereinafter called the Joint Commission) was held in London from 20-22 May 1974. The UK delegation was led by Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, who presided, and the Soviet delegation was led by Academician V. A. Kirillin, Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR and Chairman of the State Committee for Science and Technology of the USSR Council of Ministers.

'The Joint Commission noted that turnover in trade between the UK and the USSR had grown by approximately 30 per cent in value terms in 1973 reaching a total of £428 million (UK exports £97 million: UK imports £331 million). The two sides confirmed their desire for a further expansion of trade between their countries including an increase in the share of deliveries of British goods in the total turnover of mutual trade and of deliveries of Soviet equipment, machinery and industrial goods to the UK.

'It was noted with satisfaction that in the past 12 months a number of important new contracts had been concluded between Soviet Foreign Trade organisations and British firms to the value of about £80 million.

'The volume of contracts concluded between Soviet Foreign Trade organisations and British firms for reciprocal delivery of goods in 1974 suggests that the turnover of trade between the USSR and the UK will develop beyond the levels reached in 1973. The Soviet side stated that contracts to a value of approximately 200 million roubles (approximately £110 million) were currently under negotiation between Soviet Foreign Trade organisations and British companies. This was noted with satisfaction.

'The Joint Commission noted with satisfaction that, following the agreement in principle reached at the Second Session, considerable work had been undertaken by the experts of both



Pictured at Lancaster House, London, on the occasion of the third meeting of the Anglo-Soviet Joint Commission are (from the left): Tony Benn, Secretary of State for Industry; Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, who presided at the meeting; Academician Vladimir Kirillin, a Deputy Prime Minister and Chairman of the State Committee for Science and Technology, who led the Soviet delegation; and Nickolai Lunkov, Soviet Ambassador in London.

countries in negotiating the 10 Year Agreement on the Development of Economic, Scientific, Technological and Industrial Co-operation between the UK and the USSR which had been signed in London on 6 May 1974. The two sides studied questions connected with co-operation in major projects on a compensation basis and again noted the importance of developing this new form of co-operation for the further expansion of trade and economic relations between the UK and the USSR on a long-term basis. It was agreed that in order to realise the full potential of economic co-operation both sides will show in their negotiations the necessary flexibility in individual cases. It was noted that the first major contract with the participation of a British company on this basis of economic co-operation was recently signed for a high density polyethylene plant. The Joint Commission considered that further efforts should be made to ensure greater participation by the industry of both countries in major development projects. It was noted that there were good prospects for economic co-operation in the fields of the chemical, petro-chemical and machine building industries, aero-engines, fuel control systems and other aeronautical equipment, copying machines, the timber and woodworking industry and the exploitation of natural resources.

'The two sides exchanged views on improving channels of communication between Soviet organisations and British organisations. The Joint Commission recognised that it would be appropriate to expand the exchange of information about market opportunities.

'The Joint Commission reviewed the work undertaken since the 2nd Session in the fields of science and technology. They noted with satisfaction that within the period since the second meeting of the Joint Commission good progress had been made in scientific and technical contacts between the respective organisations in the two countries.

'The Joint Commission agreed that co-operation in science and technology should be designed to lead on quickly to mutually beneficial results and that wherever possible it was desirable that co-operation in technological fields should contribute to an increased level of trade and economic exchanges in both directions.

'The Joint Commission approved the activities of both sides in the further development of co-operation in the field of science, and recommended that exchanges should continue in the fields of crystal structure and macromolecules, astronomy, phase synchrotron radiation, plasma physics, hydrostatic extrusion, corrosion and tribology. The Joint Commission noted with satisfaction that a UK Mission on Tribology would be visiting the Soviet Union in July 1974 and that a Soviet mission on hydrostatic extrusion would be visiting the UK later in the year.

'The Joint Commission noted that in the near future both sides would investigate the extent to which further co-operation would be possible in the fields of agricultural and medical sciences.

'The Joint Commission approved the activities of the Anglo-Soviet Working Groups on Scientific Instruments, Electrical Supply and Transmission, Medical Instrumentation and Equipment, Machine Tools, the Coal Industry and Long Range Transport and recommended that they should continue their work in accordance with their agreed programmes of co-operation. Activity in the field of Containerisation and the Construction Industry was discussed and it was agreed that a further meeting on this subject should be held in the autumn of 1974.

'The Joint Commission noted with satisfaction that the Agreement on Environmental Protection had been signed on 21 May 1974 and that under one of its provisions a Joint Environmental Protection Committee would be established. The Joint Commission instructed the Co-Chairmen of this Committee to meet as soon as possible to discuss a programme of work and to agree on suitable arrangements for setting up groups to cover particular sectors for co-operation in the environmental field.

'The Joint Commission agreed that further work could usefully be undertaken in some new areas for co-operation, and in particular emphasised their view that mutually useful

results might be obtained from co-operation in the fields of food technology, materials handling, automation, computers, packaging technology and paper making machinery.

'Both sides noted with approval that contact had been established and discussions aimed at co-operation were proceeding in the fields of nuclear reactor construction and aviation, and the textile and timber industries.

'With reference to the Agreement on the Development of Economic, Scientific, Technological and Industrial Co-operation signed in London 6 May 1974, the Joint Commission recorded the view that this was only a first step and that if the mutual objectives set out in that Agreement were to be achieved it was necessary to establish as soon as possible concrete and well-defined programmes for trade, economic, scientific and technological co-operation which would set out in detail specific opportunities for co-operation between the two countries. The Joint Commission agreed that the concrete programmes of co-operation should be drawn up with a view to acceptance and signature by British and Soviet Ministers by the end of 1974.

'For these purposes the Joint Commission decided to set up two temporary Working Groups to draw up long-term programmes of trade, economic and industrial co-operation and of scientific and technological co-operation: and agreed that both Working Groups should hold their first meetings in July or August 1974.

'The Joint Commission decided to hold its next meeting in Moscow in 1975.

'The Third Session of the Joint Commission took place in a spirit of mutual understanding and a businesslike atmosphere. Both sides emphasised the importance which they gave to co-operation in the fields of applied science and technology and of trade and economic relations in the context both of the strengthening of friendly relations between the UK and the USSR and of furthering relaxation of tension and the advancement of peaceful and mutually advantageous co-operation in Europe. They expressed their agreement to make further efforts for progress in this direction.

'During the Session of the Joint Commission the leader of the Soviet Delegation, Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, Mr. V. A. Kirillin, was received by the Prime Minister, Harold Wilson, and had a conversation with him. Mr. V. A. Kirillin also discussed questions of the further development of co-operation in the fields of applied science and technology and trade and economic relations with Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, and Anthony Wedgwood Benn, Secretary of State for Industry.'

ECGD News

A 'very good buy' for the constructional industry – Robert Fell

The Export Credits Guarantee Department constructional works guarantee had been 'a very good buy' from the industry's point of view, said Robert Fell, ECGD secretary, speaking to the Export Group for the Constructional Industries recently. Since 1959 the ECGD had covered guarantees of this type worth £364 million for which it had received £6.7 million in premiums. But it had paid out £29.5 million in claims. Recoveries had amounted to £12½ million; there had been a net loss to the Department of 17 years of some £10 million.

Mr. Fell said earlier: 'I regard ECGD as being a sort of mutual finance house. Our insurance business has to pay its way. Our salaries and all other costs depend on earnings from our policyholders. Since the introduction of the constructional works guarantee we have reviewed it at regular intervals and we have one of these reviews on at the present.'

Mr. Fell said the results to which he had referred were 'a pointer that we must move back in our current review to the balance on which the mutuality concept depends'. But, he said, 'to give a fair picture I should add that over the last seven years we have covered 20 contracts for members of the Group, worth some £285 million, on a buyer credit basis, and we have no reason to be despondent about these.'

Taking ECGD business as a whole, Mr. Fell said: 'Altogether in the last year preliminary figures show that we insured well over £1,200 million of business on two years credit or more.'

ECGD addresses

The Export Credits Guarantee Department's head office is at Aldermanbury House, Aldermanbury, London EC2P 2EL (Tel: 01-606 6699). ECGD has 10 local offices in various parts of the United Kingdom; these are listed from time to time in *Trade and Industry*.

Three BAC 1-11s for the Philippines

The Export Credits Guarantee Department has guaranteed loans totalling £6.27 million made available by N. M. Rothschild and Sons to Philippine Airlines to help finance the purchase of three BAC 1-11s. The contracts worth almost £7 million are for one secondhand BAC 1-11 model 531 and two BAC 1-11s model 527. The aircraft are due to be delivered between now and July this year. Repayment of the secondhand aircraft will be over five years and for the new aircraft over 10 years, commencing from delivery.

Berthing tug for Netherlands Antilles

A loan of £564,800 towards the purchase of a twin screw berthing tug by Buni NV, Netherlands Antilles, has been guaranteed by the ECGD. The ship is being built by Richards (Shipbuilders) Ltd., Lowestoft, and is scheduled for delivery at the end of the year. Finance for the loan is being provided by Lloyds Bank and the loan is repayable over a period of seven years.

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Import Duties (Morocco) (Reductions) (Amendment) Order 1974

The Treasury has made the Import Duties (Morocco) (Reductions) (Amendment) Order 1974 which reduces the import duty on sardines and tunny originating in Morocco from the full rate to the rates shown below:

Tariff heading	Import duty
16.04 D	10%
16.04 E.I	8%
E.II	5%
E.III	10%

The Order came into operation on 23 May 1974 and has been published as Statutory Instrument 1974 No. 867. Copies of the Order will be available direct from HMSO.

The procedures to be followed to obtain the benefit of these preferential rates are described in Customs Notice No. 815. Copies of this Notice are available at all Customs Houses, Offices of Collectors of Customs and Excise in the United Kingdom and from HM Customs and Excise, Room 357, King's Beam House, Mark Lane, London EC3R 7HE.

Hints to business men booklet

A revised edition of the booklet on Switzerland has been published in the 'Hints to business men' series. British business men who intend visiting this country on export business can obtain copies of the booklet on application to Export Services and Promotions Division, Department of Trade, Room DO5, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel. 01-248 5757, ext. 7146) or to any Regional Office of the Department of Industry.

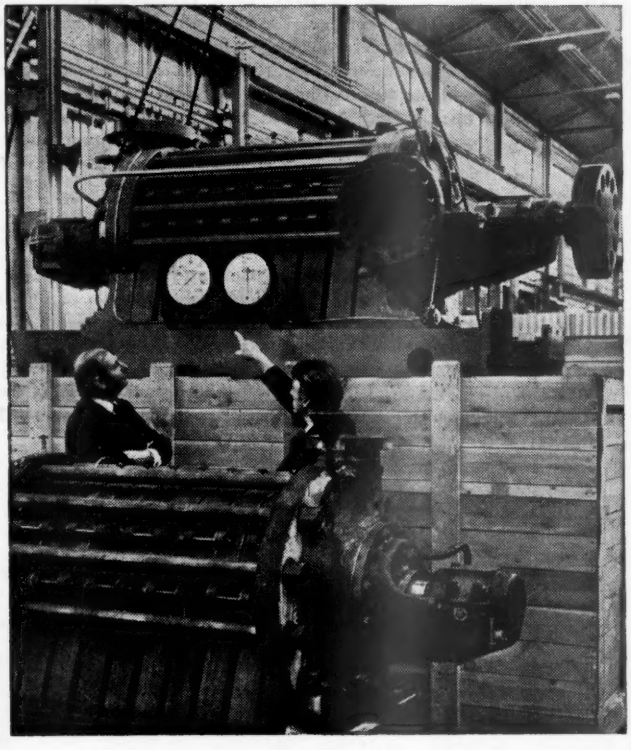
Tunisia: trade agreements

TUNISIA AND ZAIRE: The Tunisian *Official Journal*, 16 April 1974, announced the extension of the 1973 trade agreement between Tunisia and Zaire for one year from 24 February 1974. Lists of goods exchangeable have been agreed upon and a copy (in French) is available to British exporters.

TUNISIA AND YUGOSLAVIA: The Tunisian *Official Journal*, 23 April 1974, announced the provisions governing trade in 1974 between Tunisia and Yugoslavia in accordance with the trade agreement signed on 28 November 1964 and amended by subsequent protocols. Bilateral quotas have been established and details (in French) are available to British exporters.

TUNISIA AND LIBYA: The Tunisian *Official Journal*, 26 April 1974, announced the extension of the 1973 tariff and trade agreement between Tunisia and Libya for a period of one year with effect from 1 April 1974. Lists of goods entitled to duty-free treatment have been established and details (in French) are available to British exporters.

EDB ext. 475/420



A 13-ton Mackley centrifugal pump being crated at Clarke Chapman-John Thompson Ltd.'s, Marine and Transporter Division, Gateshead, before the start of its journey to Jordan, where it will help bring water to the arid northern region. It is one of a consignment of three, designed and manufactured by E. N. Mackley, the Division's Pump Department. They will help to provide 2 million gallons of drinking water daily, for the Natural Resources Authority, transferring it through 100 miles of pipeline to the needy areas. The order is Mackley's fourth for Jordan.

Improved version of the Surfcom industrial surface measuring instrument, the 30B, developed by Ferranti Ltd., Dalkeith, for measuring surface profiles with greater accuracy. Six of these systems have already been sold overseas – in France, Italy and Africa. The Surfcom 30B is fitted with an electronic probe carried on an actuator arm. In the foreground is an accessory for inspecting cylindrical components comprising two high-accuracy rolls supported in a frame. This device allows a component placed on the rollers to be rotated freely under the instrument probe for precise measurement.

Tariff and Trade Notices

France

Temporary importation of private vehicles used for business purposes

Following difficulties encountered in the application of regulations on the temporary importation into France of private vehicles used for business purposes the main points of the procedure are set out below.

The general rule is that foreign registered vehicles may be imported into France under temporary franchise (ie without payment of duty or tax) for personal and business uses provided that

the stay in France does not exceed a total of six months in any one year;

the activity carried out in France is *not* for the account of any physical or legal person having an establishment in France;

the vehicle has been registered and tax paid in the country of origin.

The proviso that the activity exercised in France should not be for the account of a physical or legal person having an establishment in France is an important one. It is interpreted by the French customs authorities to mean that if the UK company which the visitor represents has an agent or a subsidiary or a branch office in France, and that the activity carried out in France will benefit that agent, subsidiary or branch office either directly or indirectly, then the visitor may not import his vehicle into France under temporary franchise. Under the regulations the French customs authorities are entitled to demand that French customs duties and taxes are paid on the vehicle before it is allowed to enter France. Students or *stagiaires*, however, earning less than 1,000Frs a month are normally exempt.

British business visitors travelling to France in vehicles registered outside France, and who have an agent or other representative in France, should be therefore careful to declare their vehicle and the purpose of their visit to the customs on entering France so as to ensure that they do not unwittingly infringe the regulations and expose themselves to a fine. If the customs refuse to admit the vehicle unless French duties and taxes are paid the vehicle can be left in bond and removed from France at the termination of the visit.

All other visitors, whether private or on business, should experience no difficulty in obtaining temporary franchise.

Copies of this notice are obtainable from OTAR Section, Export Data Branch. **EDB ext. 466/467/288**

Federal Republic of Germany

Certificates of origin and import licensing

Certificates of origin are no longer required by the West German customs authorities if (a) the value of the goods does not exceed DM2,000 (except for textiles originating in Hong Kong or Macao) and (b) if the country of origin is an EEC member state.

Goods imported by non-residents of the Federal Republic of Germany require import licences. **EDB ext. 466/467/288**

Spain

Customs tariff modifications

The Spanish *State Gazette*, 15 May 1974, published Decree 1308/1974 which modifies the import duties on tariff headings 44.17, 44.18, 44.23 and 48.09.

Decree 1309/1974 published in the same *State Gazette* modifies the import duty and gives a breakdown to tariff headings in Chapters 47 and 48. It also modifies tariff headings 55.02 and 55.02.C.

These modifications are too lengthy to publish in detail. Photocopies of the Spanish text are being prepared and may be obtained from OTAR section, Export Data Branch.

EDB ext. 462/471/472/473

Contracts for assistance of Government Departments

The Spanish *State Gazette*, 23 April 1974, published decree law 1005/1974 which refers to contracts for the assistance of Government Departments. Such contracts occur when a job is beyond the resources of the responsible Government Department. Contracts of this type will fall mainly in the services field (for example, printing, typing, carrying out of surveys, etc.). A list of the main points contained in the decree may be obtained from CRE 3, together with the Spanish text.

CRE ext. 3476

Portugal

Cosmetics: regulations on preparation and packaging

Trade and Industry, 16 August 1973, published details of Order 405/73 of 8 June 1973 regulating the preparation and packaging of cosmetics. The maximum permitted concentration of hexachlorophene and thioglycollic acid in certain preparations has been amended by Order 324/74 of 24 April 1974. A copy of these amendments in the original Portuguese is available. **EDB ext. 460/461**

Israel

Tariff amendments

The Israeli authorities have announced amendments to the customs tariff which affect the following items:

01.02	04.02.1010	04.04.3000	08.02	09.10.6000	17.02
18.04.1100	19.08.2000	20.04.9900	20.07.9900	21.01	21.04.1000
25.22	28.27	29.02	29.06.1000	29.06.9900	33.05
33.06	38.19.9920	39.02.1010	39.03.5000	39.07.5500	40.08.2000
40.14.6000	48.01.1000	48.15.4000	49.08.1000	49.10.1000	49.11.1000
51.01.1010	51.01.2092	51.03.1010	51.03.2010	57.07	60.03.9990
60.04.1000	61.10.9900	62.04.9900	68.11.1000	68.12.1000	70.03.2000
70.09.9900	71.16.2500	71.16.2600	73.11.1010	73.11.1020	73.27.3000
73.27.4000	73.31.9900	73.34	73.36.1010	73.37	74.19.4000
83.09.1000	83.09.2000	84.17.5000	84.21.2000	84.59.2000	85.01.2111
85.01.2112	85.03.2000	85.04.3020	85.06.1000	85.06.3000	85.09.1000
85.10	85.13.2030	85.14.2000	85.14.9900	85.15.4020	85.15.4050
85.20.2013	85.20.2020	87.06.5500	87.06.6000	87.12.2030	87.12.2050
87.12.2060	87.13.9900	90.04.9900	90.07.2000	90.09.1010	90.09.2010
90.13.3000	90.16.4041	90.16.4042	90.21	90.23.9930	90.23.9990
90.26.3000	90.26.9900	91.04.4000	92.10.2000	94.04.2600	97.02
97.03.1000	97.03.3000	97.04.1090	97.06.3000	98.02.1000	98.15
98.16.1000	98.16.9000				

Further information

In many cases further information on the notices published on these pages is available to British exporters from the Department of Trade. The main branches concerned are: Commercial Relations and Exports (CRE) Divisions, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET (tel: 01-222 7877); and Export Data Branch (EDB), Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel: 01-248 5757). In each case, the relevant information source is indicated at the end of the notice by its initials (CRE or EDB) and the appropriate telephone extension number. In the Tariff and Trade Notices section countries are grouped by continents as far as possible; they are listed alphabetically on the contents page.

Amendments have also been made to the Israeli customs tariff as follows:

'If released before 1.4.74' is superseded by 'If released before 1.10.74'

07.04.4010	07.04.9910	11.05.1000	12.01.2510	18.01.1010	18.03.1010
18.04.9910	27.10.5030	32.07.2010	44.15.2010	44.15.9910	44.18.9910
48.01.3011	48.16.3000	73.10.1011	73.10.1012	73.10.1017	73.10.1050
73.10.1070	73.10.1092	73.10.2020	73.10.2031		

'If released before 1.4.74' is superseded by 'If released before 1.4.75'

02.01.1011	02.01.1023	02.01.1028	04.04.4000	07.05.4010	10.06.1010
10.06.9910	17.01.9910	25.23.1020	44.23.1000	44.23.2000	55.05.2000
55.06.9910	68.09.1000	68.09.9910	68.10.9910	73.12.9921	73.13.9931
73.14.3030	73.15.2091	73.15.5092	84.22.2010	84.22.5093	84.54.6000
84.59.1551	84.60.5000	87.03.7000	87.03.8000		

British exporters with inquiries should specify the items in which they are interested. **EDB ext. 475/420**

Tariff amendments

The Israeli authorities have issued the following amendments to the customs tariff:

Item no.	Description	Rate of duty
39.07	Subsection 5610 is superseded by:	
5610	Of a kind made specially for the protection of safety of workers in industry and workshops, excluding gloves, and provided that the Director has approved the goods for the purpose of this item before importation	20% *ad val.*
73.20	After section 2000 shall be inserted:	
3000	Elbows, U pipes, angles of tubes and pipes of an inner diameter not exceeding 230 mm. and excluding those made of cast iron	22.5% *ad val.*
	Subsection 4010 is superseded by:	
4010	Of a weight not exceeding 3.5 kg.	22.5% *ad val.* but not less than IL1.00 per kg
90.12	Section 9000 is superseded by:	
9900	Other	22.5% *ad val.* but not more than IL108.00 per unit

EDB ext. 420/475

Import liberalisation list amendments

The Israeli authorities have issued the following amendments to the Free Imports Order:

Item no.	
	After item 29.15 is inserted
29.16.2000	Citric acid
	After item 71.12.9910 is inserted
71.15	Articles which contain or are made of pearls, precious or semi-precious stones (natural, synthetic or reconstructed)
20.02 71.02 71.03 84.45	Amendments have also been made to these items. Details are available on request

EDB ext. 420/475

Purchase tax amendments

The Israeli authorities have issued amendments to the Purchase Tax Order which affect the following items:

Fabrics made of 100% cotton or unwoven fabrics, sprayed with plastic material
Sails
Non-fibre plastic plates, sheets, foil or ribbon
Heating appliances
Composition leather; hides and skins of animals
Musical instruments and apparatus
Mixtures of polyethylene and carbon black
Machines for printing and stamping of travel tickets
Fruit juices, sweetened and fermented fruit beverages
Appliances for ventilating and regulating temperature and air humidity
Vehicles used for transport of corpses for burial

EDB ext. 420/475

Fish products: labelling order

An addition has been made to the Israeli Labelling of Products Order, as follows:

9. A description of fish products shall include the name of the products, the name of the fish from which the product was prepared, the name and address of the producer, the name and address of the importer if the product has been imported and the word 'Kasher' if the owner or the importer is in possession of a certificate from the Chief Rabbinate of Israel, or the words 'Not Kasher' if the producer or the importer are not in possession of such a certificate.

This order is now in force. No further details are available. **EDB ext. 420/475**

Animals import regulations

The Israeli Minister of Agriculture has issued some new regulations in respect of the import of animals. Copies of these regulations are available on request to British exporters. **EDB ext. 420/475**

Lebanon

Foodstuffs: export ban lifted

Trade and Industry, 14 February 1974, reported a Government ban on the export and re-export of certain foodstuffs from the Lebanon, including the Free Zone. This ban has now been cancelled.

The export and re-export of the following products from the Lebanon, including the Free Zone, is now subject to licensing control,

the
INTERNATIONAL
BANK

In London with sister institutions — the Arab Bank (Overseas) Limited in Zurich and Geneva — the Arab Bank (Nigeria) Limited in Lagos, Kano and Apapa—Associates UBAE (Union de Banques Arabes et Europeennes) in Luxembourg and Frankfurt; branches throughout the Arab World and correspondents world wide, the Arab Bank provides a complete international banking service.

the
LOCAL BANK

The Arab Bank has branches in
Abu Dhabi, Ajman, Bahrain, Dubai, Gaza, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Ras Alkhaimah, Saudi Arabia, Sharjah, Tunisia, Yemen Arab Republic

the
ARAB BANK

General Management: Amman Established 1930

Capital & Reserves	16,100,000 Jordan Dinars
Deposits	200,625,000 Jordan Dinars
Total Assets	310,100,000 Jordan Dinars

As at December 31st, 1973

ARAB BANK LIMITED
EMPIRE HOUSE, ST. MARTIN'S LE GRAND, LONDON EC1P 1DR
Telephone 01-606 7801 Telex 884359
Cables Bankarabi London EC1

but goods arriving in 'direct transit', ie when the ultimate country of destination is specifically stated, are excluded from this restriction:

Wheat and its derivatives, sugar, rice, lentils, beans (dried), chick peas, tomato paste, edible oil and fats, powdered milk, cheese and curd, frozen and canned meat, cattle (sheep, cows, goats, etc.), animal and poultry feeds of all kinds; canned cereals, and vegetables.

The export and re-export of other types of foodstuffs (other than those in respect of which special restrictive decisions have been issued) is not subject to any restriction. **EDB ext. 420/475**

Tunisia

Quotas for exports from France

The Tunisian *Official Journal*, 23 April 1974, announced the opening of quotas (in thousands of Tunisian dinars) for certain items originating in France and imported into Tunisia for the period from 1 January to 31 August 1974.

Quotas have been established for the following BN numbers:

22.01	44.03
22.05 subheadings A and E,	60.01
33.06 subheadings B, E and F	61.05
34.01 subheading B	70.13 subheading D
34.05	Chapter 71
34.06	73.13
39.07	84.12
42.02 subheadings D, F and G	84.40 subheading C
42.03 subheadings A and E	91.01

Copies of the list (in French) giving full details of items and quotas concerned are available to British exporters on request.

EDB ext. 475/420

Ghana

Ghana Shippers Council established

Decree No. 254 of 29 March 1974 brought into being the Ghana Shippers Council. The duty of the council is 'to provide facilities for mutual consultation between shippers, shipowners and the Railway and Ports Authority on matters of interest to shippers'. The council will have power to represent the views of shippers on the structure of rates, ports facilities, shipping space, etc., and to enter into agreements with shipowners on matters affecting shippers. Membership of the council will include representatives from various Ghanaian bodies and from the Ministries of Trade and Tourism, and Transport and Communications. **CRE ext. 3064/3338**

Singapore

Medicated samsoo: import procedure

Import and Export notice 3/74 states that inward declarations for medicated samsoo must be endorsed by the Director of Medical Services, Singapore, before they can be approved by the Imports and Exports Office. The notice states that medicated samsoo should show its formulation on the containers' label and all ordinary samsoo should have the words 'not medicated' shown on inward declarations.

EDB ext. 401/468/469

Registered trade marks

The lists of Tariff, Customs and Import Regulations changes in overseas countries published in this section of *Trade and Industry* sometimes contain words which are registered trade marks in the United Kingdom. So far as is practicable, all lists of goods are checked before publication from this point of view. Items which fall into this category are preceded by the letters rtm. Readers should note that this prefix signifies that the words are registered as trade marks in the United Kingdom but that in the present context are assumed to refer generally to products of the descriptions stated in brackets. While every attempt will be made to ensure that the scrutiny is complete, the lists may contain other words which are registered as trade marks in the United Kingdom or in other countries but which it has not been possible to identify.

Australia

Cigarette tissue paper, textile bags and sacks: tariff changes

As a result of changes in the Australian Customs Tariff consequent upon Tariff Board inquiries into cigarette tissue paper (CRE 1761/71) and textile bags and sacks (CRE 870/72) with effect from 24 April 1974, Part II of the first schedule covering tariff items 48.01, 48.10, 48.15, and 62.03 now reads as follows:

Tariff item	Goods	Rates of duty: General	Rates of duty: Preferential
1 Omit item 48.01, substitute the following item:			
48.01	Paper and paperboard (including cellulose wadding), machine-made, in rolls or sheets:		
48.01.1	As prescribed by by-law	Free	Free
48.01.2	Carpet felt paper, roofing felt and other felt paper; dyeline base paper and paperboard; ferro prussiate paper and paperboard:		
48.01.21	Carpet felt paper, roofing felt and other felt paper	30%	30%, less $2.96 per t
48.01.22	Dyeline base paper and paperboard; ferro prussiate paper and paperboard	28%	17%
48.01.3	Paper and paperboard for use as a filter:		
48.01.31	Containing asbestos	21%	11%
48.01.39	Other	6%	Free
48.01.4	Newsprint	$5.91 per t	Free
48.01.5	Cigarette tissue or cigarette plug wrap	20%	20%
48.01.9	Other:		
48.01.91	Having a substance not exceeding 22 grams per square metre	$41.25 per t	$38.25 per t
48.01.92	Having a substance exceeding 22 grams per square metre and not exceeding 205 grams per square metre	30%, or, if lower, $48.23 per t	30%, less $2.96 per t; or, if lower, $41.58 per t
48.01.99	Other	30%, or, if lower, $48.23 per t	30%, less $7.38 per t; or, if lower, $40.85 per t
2 Omit item 48.10, substitute the following item:			
48.10	Cigarette paper, cut to size, whether or not in the form of booklets or tubes:		
48.10.1	Filigrained paper, in rolls, as prescribed by by-law	Free	Free
48.10.2	Other paper, in rolls	20%	20%
48.10.9	Other	$0.017 per 60 tubes, papers or the equivalent thereof	$0.017 per 60 tubes, papers or the equivalent thereof
3 Omit item 48.15, substitute the following item:			
48.15	Other paper and paperboard, cut to size or shape:		
48.15.1	Paper for use in wrapping fruit	Free	Free
48.15.2	Paper and paperboard, not containing asbestos, for use as a filter; monotype paper; aseptic paper; indicator paper and paperboard, other than diagnostic reagent paper and paperboard put up with directions for use	6%	Free
48.15.3	Diagnostic reagent paper and paperboard, put up with directions for use	34%	21%
48.15.4	Printed or embossed with words, letters or figures and, by reason of such printing or embossing, recognisable as suitable for use as a wrapping medium; billheads, memorandum and other printed, ruled or engraved forms	43%, or, if higher, $0.227 per kg	17%, or, if higher, $0.124 per kg
48.15.5	Unsensitised prepared positive transfer media of the type used for the photocopying of documents by the image-transfer process	14%	7.5%
48.15.6	Gummed paper in strips or rolls, not being goods falling within a preceding sub-item of this item; paper and paperboard, containing asbestos, for use as a filter	22.5%	13%
48.15.7	Cigarette tissue or cigarette plug wrap	20%	20%
48.15.9	Other	37.5%	21%
4 In sub-item 62.02.2 omit '20.4 metres in length and not less than 1.53 metres in width', substitute '150 centimetres in width and not less than 200 centimetres in length'.			
5 Omit item 62.03, substitute the following item:			
62.03	Sacks and bags, of a kind used for the packing of goods:		
62.03.1	Of man-made fibre materials, not being woolpacks	22.5%	22.5%
62.03.2	Of jute; woolpacks	Free	Free
62.03.9	Other	7.5%	7.5%

EDB ext. 468/469/401

Petroleum and mining industries: Industries Assistance Commission inquiry

The Australian Prime Minister has referred to the Industries Assistance Commission for inquiry and report:

a the effect of taxation concessions and royalties on the development and efficiency of the petroleum and mining industries in Australia;

b whether the Australian Government should accord assistance by way of differential taxation treatment, for the petroleum and mining industries in Australia.

Tariff details of the goods used in these industries may be obtained from Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section, Export Data Branch (EDB ext. 468/469/401).

UK trade associations or firms intending to submit evidence to the Industries Assistance Commission should advise the Secretary, Industries Assistance Commission, Kings Avenue, Canberra, ACT 2600, Australia, without delay by air mail giving details of their interest in the inquiry.

Evidence may be submitted to the Industries Assistance Commission either directly by the firm or trade association concerned or through the Australian British Trade Association, 21 Tothill Street, London SW1 (tel. 01-799 7447). The association charges a fee for its services, the amount varying according to the work entailed in the preparation of a submission and whether or not the interested party is a member. Ref. CRE 75/74 **CRE ext. 5318/5319**

Trinidad and Tobago

Travelling salesmen: work permits and licences

Legislation is expected to come into force in June 1974 requiring travelling salesmen, who do not belong to the Caricom region, or do not possess an agent or a company carrying on business in Trinidad and Tobago, to obtain a work permit and a special licence. The cost of the application for the grant of a work permit is T$50. For the duration of the work permit it will be T$50 per month with a minimum of T$100. The fee for the travelling salesmen licence will be T$500 for a six-month period or T$1,000 for a period of 12 months. **EDB ext. 7312/474/476**

St. Lucia

Travelling salesmen: work permits

Under a new order to be published shortly, salesmen who wish to solicit orders in St. Lucia for goods manufactured or produced outside Caricom will have to obtain work permits.

A standard work permit form should be submitted and approved before salesmen leave the UK. Forms are available from the Ministry of Labour, Government Headquarters, Castries, St. Lucia, on payment of EC$10, and should be submitted to that Ministry.

Work permits for UK businessmen will cost EC$100 and will be valid for one calendar year.

Visiting salesmen will still be liable for the Commercial Travellers Licence fee. **EDB ext. 7312/474/476**

Uruguay

Import duty concessions

Uruguayan Decree 212/974, published in *Diario Oficial* 19244, temporarily exempts the following goods from payment of import duties and taxes until 30 September 1974:

Imports of raw sugar for refining, yerba mate (semi-processed), raw coffee beans, hessian, road-making machinery, pharmaceuticals and raw materials for their manufacture.

Imports of processed yerba mate will remain exempt from 50 per cent of these import duties and taxes.

The concessions will only apply to these goods if they are imported free of surchage or with a surcharge not exceeding 10 per cent.

EDB ext. 474/476/7312

Chile

Exchange rates

The recent change in exchange rates announced by the Chilean Central Bank was altered again on 13 May 1974. The 'Bank' rate is raised from 580 escudos to 620 escudos per US dollar. The 'Brokers' rate remains unchanged. The exchange rate covering the conversion of export earnings from unprocessed copper has increased from 263 escudos to 300 escudos per US dollar. **CRE ext. 5289**

Ultramar
Company Limited

Highlights from the Statement of the Chairman, **Mr. Campbell L. Nelson,** at the 38th Annual General Meeting held in London on 22nd May 1974.

- **Record financial results for 1973 gave us a cash flow from operations of £14,757,000 and a profit after tax of £7,844,000.**
- **Our widespread operations in Canada, U.S.A. and the U.K., together with our shipping and Caribbean operations and world wide trading, all contributed to this profitability and continue to do so in 1974.**
- **The large Badak gas and condensate field in Indonesia is expected to begin commercial production early in 1977 and should make a substantial contribution to our profits.**
- **Our shipping interests have continued to expand and have become an important part of our business.**
- **There is a significant change in our loan structure, giving us a substantial replacement of short term money by longer term loans.**
- **We expect to continue our record of growing profits in 1974. In the first quarter net profit after tax is £3,049,000. Cash flow from operations amounts to £5,616,000.**

Copies of the full Statement and the 1973 Report and Accounts are available from the Secretaries of the Company, 1-2 Broad Street Place, London, EC2M 7EP.

ULTRAMAR

Statistics

The economy: selected indicators

Series expressed as index numbers and seasonally adjusted except where shown otherwise

	Gross domestic product (average estimate)	Consumers expenditure	Fixed capital expenditure			Changes in stocks				Balance of payments		
			Total	of which: Manufacturing industry	of which: Distributive and service industries	Total	of which: Manufacturing industry	of which: Wholesalers	of which: Retailers	Current balance	Visible balance	Invisible balance
	at 1970 prices		at 1970 prices			at 1970 prices				at current prices		
Base of index	1971	1970	1970	1970	1970							
£m in base year		31,494	9,223	2,129	2,087	series in £ million				series in £ million		
1969	97	98	98	93	92	416	320	42	13	445	−143	588
1970	99	100	100	100	100	257	175	68	38	692	−9	701
1971	100	103	100	92	101	−7	−218	52	21	1,087	285	782
1972	102	109	102	83	111	−394	−498	28	22	69	−677	746
1973	108	114	106	88	116	720	433	34	227	−1468	−2375	907
1971 3rd qtr	101	104	101	92	105	−18	67	9	15	380	172	208
4th qtr	101	105	101	88	102	—	−47	3	21	248	60	188
1972 1st qtr	100	106	103	88	105	−131	−156	15	−9	71	−121	192
2nd qtr	102	108	102	84	110	−100	−145	−12	40	112	−64	176
3rd qtr	102	110	102	81	110	−83	−126	4	−8	−116	−284	163
4th qtr	105	111	102	81	118	−80	−72	22	−1	+2	−208	210
1973 1st qtr	108	115	109	87	123	247	168	18	31	−186	−351	165
2nd qtr	108	113	102	84	107	209	87	−14	154	−196	−399	203
3rd qtr	108	114	107	91	116	120	79	18	22	−357	−606	249
4th qtr	108	114	108	92	121	144	98	14	20	−729	−1019	290
1974 1st qtr		112										
% change last 2 qtrs on prev. 2 qtrs	+0.2	+0.1	+2.1	+6.5	+3.0							
on a year earlier	+4.5	+3.0	+5.5	+12.9	+3.5							

	Index of industrial production		Personal expenditure		Prices and costs					Labour				Trade§	
	Total all industries	Total manufacturing industries	Retail sales	Cars: new registrations	Index of retail prices		Index of wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry		Basic hourly wage rates of manual workers (all industries and services)‡	Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students		Unfilled vacancies for adults		Exports	Imports
				monthly averages	Index‡	% increase on a year earlier	basic materials and fuel used‡	manufactured products: home sales‡		mid-month count	% of total employees	mid-month count		monthly averages	
Base of index	1970	1970	1971		Jan 16, 1962		1970	1970	July 31, 1972					Series in	
£m in base year			15,895	thousands						thousands		thousands		£ million	
1970	100.0	100.0	99.0	91.4	140.2	6.4	100.0	100.0	78.5	568	2.5	186		658	659
1971	100.3	99.5	100.0	108.5	153.4	9.4	104.6	109.0	88.9	737	3.2	129		733	709
1972	102.4	101.9	105.8	138.6	164.3	7.1	109.2	114.8	101.4	816	3.6	145		761	818
1973	109.7	110.1	110.7	137.3	179.4	9.2	144.1	123.2*	115.5	581	2.6	304		958	1,151
1972 2nd qtr	102.7	101.2	104.6	147	162.7	6.2	106.1	113.5	98.1	838	3.7	132		764	786
3rd qtr	102.9	102.3	107.2	139	165.4	6.5	109.4	115.6	102.2	808	3.6	147		684	779
4th qtr	105.8	105.4	109.5	144	169.4	7.7	115.6	118.0	107.8	750	3.3	179		871	940
1973 1st qtr	110.2	110.4	111.8	152	172.4	8.0	126.0	119.5	108.8	667	2.9	228		878	995
2nd qtr	109.3	109.4	108.0	136	177.9	9.3	133.4	120.1*	112.6	605	2.6	289		931	1,064
3rd qtr	110.3	110.7	110.5	143	180.2	9.2	150.5	124.2	118.4	562	2.5	334		995	1,197
4th qtr	108.8	109.7	112.3	119	186.8	10.3	167.2	129.1	120.9	489	2.2	364		1,008	1,348
1974 1st qtr	101.7	103.5	110.1	103	101.4	12.9	206.4 p	138.4 p	124.9	543	2.4	285		1,123 p	1,547 p
1973 Apr	109.0	109.0	106.9	138	176.7	9.2	130.5	118.8*	112.3	616	2.7	271		940	956
May	108.9	108.0	106.5	134	178.0	9.5	132.4	120.1	113.2	605	2.7	291		894	1,139
June	110.0	111.1	110.1	135	178.9	9.3	137.2	121.3	115.6	593	2.6	304		960	1,198
July	110.3	110.5	110.6	147	179.7	9.4	145.1	122.7	116.0	581	2.6	324		961	1,145
Aug	109.7	110.3	110.8	153	180.2	8.9	152.4	124.1	119.7	563	2.5	330		980	1,206
Sept	110.8	111.4	110.2	129	181.8	9.3	154.1	125.8	120.0	542	2.4	349		1,043	1,239
Oct	110.8	111.3	111.7	127	185.4	9.9	161.4	127.7	120.3	512	2.3	363		982	1,385
Nov	109.8	111.3	112.3	126	186.8	10.3	165.5	129.0	121.0	486	2.2	368		1,022	1,304
Dec	105.4	106.6	112.9	103	188.2	10.6	174.8	130.6	122.0	470	2.1	362		1,019	1,354
1974 Jan	99.4	99.8	109.5	93	191.8	12.0	203.0	134.1	123.7	535	2.4	304		1,015	1,398
Feb	101.1	104.3	110.3	109	101.7†	13.2†	207.0	138.5	124.7	549	2.4	278		1,150 p	1,579 p
Mar	104.7	106.4	110.4	106	102.6	13.5	208.8 p	142.5 p	126.4	545	2.4	274		1,209 p	1,662 p
Apr			108.5 p	98 p	106.1	15.2	209.1 p	147.2 p	126.6	546	2.4	297		1,276 p	1,667 p
May										548 p	2.4 p	314			
% change last qtr on prev. qtr	−6.5	−5.7	−1.7	−2.8	+5.0		+15.0	+8.7	+3.1	+5.6		−6.3		+19.1	+20.9
on a year earlier	−7.7	−6.3	−1.2	−29.5	+14.0		+61.9	+20.3	+14.2	−11.6		+8.6		+34.5	+63.6

(‡) Not seasonally adjusted. (§) On a balance of payments basis. * After April 1973, affected by changes due to VAT. † Base of index Jan 1974 = 100.

United Kingdom overseas trade. Import and export unit value and volume indices for January

Balance of Payments basis (Table 1)

The export unit value index, on a balance of payments basis, rose by 1½ per cent in January. The average for the three months ended January was 6½ per cent above the average for the previous three months.

The import unit value index rose by 4 per cent in January, while the average for the three months ended January was nearly 12 per cent above that for the previous three months; excluding fuels, the figures for January show a fall of half of one per cent, while the three-months' comparison shows a rise of 6 per cent.

The terms of trade fell by a further two points in January; excluding fuels there was a rise of two points.

Overseas Trade Statistics basis (Tables 2-4)

Export unit value index numbers

For the three months ended January, the export unit value index for non-manufactured goods was 17½ per cent above the average for the three months ended October. For manufactures the increase was 4½ per cent. Within this latter broad grouping the index numbers for chemicals and for textiles rose about 8½ per cent, for metals by 6½ per cent, while that for machinery and transport goods rose by under 4 per cent.

Import unit value index numbers

Within the 11½ per cent rise in the total import unit value index for the three months ended January, compared with the previous three months, fuels rose by 52 per cent. The other major groupings showed rises of 6 per cent for food and drink, 8½ per cent for basic materials, and 5½ per cent for manufactures. In January the index for fuels rose 28 per cent compared with December, but for the other broad groupings the rises did not exceed 4½ per cent.

Notes

(a) The publication of these indices has been delayed as a result of difficulties with new processing systems introduced at HM Customs Statistical Office, at the same time as changes in the United Kingdom Tariff and Overseas Trade Classification. Other changes affecting documentation were also introduced. The difficulties arising from these changes earlier in the year were accentuated by the emergency measures (see *Trade and Industry* of 11 April 1974). Most of the difficulties which have contributed to the delays in the publication of the unit value and volume indices this year have been overcome and a steady catching up on timetables is expected. February figures are expected to be published on 11 June and it is hoped that figures for subsequent months will follow at roughly fortnightly intervals, normal timing being achieved with the July indices being released by about early September.

(b) Table 1 is on a balance of payments basis. Tables 2-4 are on an Overseas Trade Statistics basis. The adjustments which have to be made to the figures recorded in the *Overseas Trade Statistics of the United Kingdom* to bring them to a balance of payments basis relate either to the coverage of the statistics or to the valuation of items which are recorded. The adjustments are described in great detail in the annual *Balance of Payments Pink Book*. A brief description of the way in which the index numbers on a balance of payments basis are calculated was published in the article giving unit value and volume index numbers for March 1971 in *Trade and Industry* of 26 May 1971.

Symbols used in all statistical tables

.. not available	r revised
— nil or less than half the final digit shown	* five week period
p provisional	ø fifty-three week period

TABLE 1 Import and export unit value and volume index numbers on a balance of payments basis 1970 = 100

		Unit value Index Numbers (Unadjusted)			Volume Index Numbers (Seasonally adjusted)	
		Imports	Exports	Terms of Trade†	Imports	Exports
1971		104.3	105.6	101.2	104.2	106.7
1972		109.2	111.0	101.7	116.6	106.7
1973		139.1	125.5	90.3	131.8	119.2
1972	1st quarter	107.1	110.2	102.9	112.1	104.7
	2nd quarter	107.6	110.7	103.0	114.3	109.0
	3rd quarter	111.4	114.0	102.3	111.0	94.5
	4th quarter	116.5	115.1	98.8	129.0	118.9
1973	1st quarter	123.2	119.2	96.7	129.2	116.9
	2nd quarter	132.8	123.5	93.0	127.1	119.3
	3rd quarter	146.4	128.5	87.8	133.4	121.5
	4th quarter *	161.6	135.3	83.7	137.4	119.3
1973	January	120.5	117.1	97.2	126.3	119.1
	February	123.2	119.4	96.9	126.1	118.0
	March	125.9	120.9	96.0	135.2	113.7
	April	130.2	122.1	93.8	116.4	121.8
	May	132.9	123.6	93.0	135.0	115.5
	June	135.2	124.9	92.4	129.9	120.5
	July	140.7	126.6	89.9	134.1	119.7
	August	146.2	128.3	87.8	134.9	121.1
	September	152.2	130.7	85.9	131.2	123.6
	October *	155.0	131.6	84.9	143.9	120.7
	November *	160.2	135.1	84.3	134.1	122.4
	December	169.6	139.2	82.1	134.2	114.7
1974	January p	176.7	141.3	80.0	130.8	114.8
Average three months ending						
	Oct. 1973	151.1	130.2	86.2	136.7	121.8
	Jan. 1974	168.8	138.5	82.1	133.0	117.3

Note: Figures are shown to one decimal place to assist users, but small month to month movements may have little signficance.
† Export Unit Value index as a percentage of the Import Unit Value index.
p Provisional estimates.
* See note (d) about imports through London Airport.

(c) An article was published in the 11 October 1973 issue of *Trade and Industry* introducing a new series of import and export unit value and volume indices with 1970 = 100, superseding the series with 1961 = 100. Figures for 1973 have now been fully rebased.

(d) Industrial action at Heathrow during October 1973 affected the flow of some import documents. All indices for October 1973 and November 1973 have been adjusted to remove the distortion arising from the interruption to statistical processing in October. As a result the series in Tables 2 to 4 do not reflect the detailed figures contained in the October and November issues of the *Overseas Trade Statistics of the United Kingdom*.

Government Publications in the Midlands

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Her Majesty's Stationery Office, 258/259 Broad Street, Birmingham, 1

TABLE 2 Import and export unit value index numbers (unadjusted) (overseas trade statistics basis) 1970 = 100

	Imports					Exports							
	Total	Food, beverages and tobacco	Basic materials	Fuels	Manufactured goods	Total	Non-manufactures	Manufactured goods					
								Total	Chemicals	Textiles	Metals	Machinery and transport eqpt.	Other
Section or Division		0 and 1	2 and 4	3	5 to 8		0 to 4	5 to 8	5	65	67 to 69	7	
Weights	1,000	227	151	105	506	1,000	123	844	97	49	119	410	169
1971	104.6	107	102	122	101	105.6	107	105	102	102	99	110	102
1972	108.7	114	106	123	104	111.1	114	111	104	104	100	118	107
1973	137.8	150	141	164	126	125.5	139	124	114	123	115	128	125
1972 1st quarter	106.3	111	101	120	103	110.3	110	110	105	102	98	118	106
2nd quarter	107.4	112	104	120	104	110.8	112	111	104	104	100	119	104
3rd quarter •	110.8					114.1							
4th quarter	115.8	122	116	127	111	116.1	118	115	107	107	103	122	113
1973 1st quarter	122.2	132	124	136	115	119.1	127	118	109	112	108	124	118
2nd quarter	131.8	146	135	144	122	123.5	132	122	112	120	113	128	123
3rd quarter	144.6	159	147	162	134	128.4	141	127	115	126	120	131	130
4th quarter †	159.4	172	162	215	143	135.2	158	133	125	136	129	135	133
1973 January	119.4	129	122	132	112	117.0	122	116	109	111	104	123	115
February	121.7	133	123	138	114	119.4	126	119	110	114	108	124	118
March	125.4	135	127	140	118	120.8	132	119	109	113	111	124	120
April	129.5	143	132	139	121	122.0	131	121	111	118	111	126	122
May	131.8	146	137	145	121	123.5	132	122	113	120	112	128	123
June	134.1	149	137	148	124	124.9	134	124	113	122	115	129	125
July	139.0	152	140	152	130	126.5	138	125	112	124	116	130	128
August	144.5	160	146	163	134	128.2	140	127	115	126	120	130	130
September	150.3	166	154	171	139	130.6	144	129	117	127	123	132	133
October †	153.7	169	159	183	140	131.6	145	130	121	131	126	133	130
November †	158.3	171	161	210	142	135.0	153	133	125	138	130	135	132
December	166.1	175	165	252	146	139.1	174	135	128	140	132	136	136
1974 January	175.9	178	173	321	147	141.2	177	137	129	140	132	139	137
Average three months ending													
October 1973	149.5	165	153	172	138	130.1	143	129	118	128	123	132	131
January 1974	166.8	175	166	261	145	138.4	168	135	127	139	131	137	135

• Details not shown due to distortion by dock strike.
† See note (d) about imports through London Airport.

TABLE 3 Import and export volume index numbers (unadjusted) (overseas trade statistics basis) 1970 = 100

	Imports					Exports							
	Total	Food, beverages and tobacco	Basic materials	Fuels	Manufactured goods	Total	Non-manufactures	Manufactured goods					
								Total	Chemicals	Textiles	Metals	Machinery and transport eqpt.	Other
Section or Division		0 and 1	2 and 4	3	5 to 8		0 to 4	5 to 8	5	65	67 to 69	7	
Weights	1,000	227	151	105	506	1,000	123	844	97	49	119	410	169
1971	104.8	100	91	109	110	109.0	104	110	110	106	107	108	119
1972	116.1	102	93	109	131	111.4	110	112	118	111	108	106	128
1973	132.8	103	104	112	159	126.6	124	128	143	127	123	117	148
1972 1st quarter	115.5	105	90	122	126	107.6	103	109	113	106	103	104	122
2nd quarter	116.8	105	94	111	130	117.4	112	119	130	116	115	112	134
3rd quarter •	106.2					92.4							
4th quarter	126.8	108	104	108	147	126.6	134	126	131	129	126	120	138
1973 1st quarter	134.4	112	105	113	158	121.8	115	124	135	124	121	115	141
2nd quarter	130.8	103	103	115	156	127.7	118	131	147	135	125	121	146
3rd quarter	129.1	95	106	110	155	122.1	123	123	141	120	110	112	147
4th quarter †	138.2	103	106	114	168	134.0	139	133	148	130	127	123	155
1973 January	143.0	127	113	124	162	127.1	120	129	137	125	126	124	143
February	117.4	91	93	101	140	116.8	105	118	124	115	113	110	138
March	142.8	117	108	115	171	122.3	119	125	145	131	122	112	143
April	116.6	95	95	104	136	123.1	114	126	134	121	119	113	158
May	143.6	112	111	120	174	130.7	124	133	157	143	131	127	131
June	132.3	103	103	122	157	129.4	117	133	151	142	124	123	149
July	133.2	97	104	104	165	129.5	122	132	145	134	122	124	150
August	130.9	95	111	134	152	123.6	126	124	148	119	110	112	149
September	123.0	92	104	93	149	113.3	121	113	130	109	98	101	143
October †	152.6	110	124	135	183	139.8	149	140	158	140	137	127	162
November †	139.8	108	104	112	169	142.0	151	141	154	134	131	128	172
December	122.4	92	90	94	152	120.3	118	119	133	115	113	113	130
1974 January	133.5	97	101	121	162	118.0	119	118	145	129	123	115	106

• Details not shown due to distortion by dock strike.
† See note (d) about imports through London Airport.

TABLE 4 Import and export volume index numbers (seasonally adjusted) (Overseas trade statistics basis) 1970 = 100

	Imports					Exports							
	Total	Food, beverages and tobacco	Basic materials	Fuels	Manufactured goods	Total	Non-manufactures	Manufactured goods					
								Total	Chemicals	Textiles	Metals	Machinery and transport eqpt.	Other
Section or Division		0 and 1	2 and 4	3	5 to 8		0 to 4	5 to 8	5	65	67 to 69	7	
Weights	1,000	227	151	105	506	1,000	123	844	97	49	119	410	169
1972 1st quarter	112.6	100	92	115	123	109.2	108	110	115	108	106	105	123
2nd quarter	113.2	102	94	106	125	113.2	111	115	120	112	110	107	133
3rd quarter *	111.3					99.3							
4th quarter	127.4	107	103	109	150	123.8	123	125	134	124	120	119	137
1973 1st quarter	128.4	105	105	105	150	123.1	120	125	137	126	126	114	143
2nd quarter	128.0	101	103	111	151	125.1	120	128	139	132	124	116	151
3rd quarter	136.8	102	104	119	166	129.9	131	130	147	130	121	122	148
4th quarter †	137.9	103	103	114	170	128.3	124	129	149	122	120	118	151
1973 January	127.2	114	98	105	148	125.6	120	128	138	125	133	120	139
February	125.3	96	101	108	148	123.6	119	126	132	125	122	117	149
March	132.7	105	115	103	154	120.0	123	120	141	128	122	105	141
April	117.8	98	102	103	136	128.2	119	134	133	126	123	118	185
May	135.6	108	106	112	160	121.1	122	120	140	131	123	113	121
June	130.7	99	101	119	156	126.6	118	128	143	137	125	117	148
July	135.3	100	102	115	164	126.6	124	128	141	134	122	119	147
August	139.7	104	102	137	167	130.3	139	129	151	129	121	121	140
September	135.3	101	108	106	166	132.6	130	133	148	126	122	125	157
October †	142.6	104	116	132	171	129.0	127	130	150	122	124	119	154
November †	136.8	101	100	109	169	131.8	131	131	152	123	119	120	158
December	134.3	103	95	102	171	123.9	113	124	146	120	117	115	142
1974 January	128.4	93	96	112	159	120.6	122	121	152	133	132	116	107
Average three months ending:													
October 1973	139.2	103	109	125	168	130.6	132	131	150	126	122	122	150
January 1974	133.2	99	97	108	166	125.4	122	126	150	125	123	117	135

* Details not shown due to distortion by dock strike.
† See note (d) about imports through London Airport.

The Bankruptcy Acts 1914 and 1926

The number of Receiving Orders and Administration Orders in Bankruptcy (deceased debtors' estates), made in the High Court and in the several County Courts having bankruptcy jurisdiction in England and Wales, made in the Quarter ended 31 December 1973, and also the total number of Deeds of Arrangement registered during the same period, together with the corresponding figures for the previous four quarters are as follows:

Receiving Orders and Administration Order	4th quarter 1973	3rd quarter 1973	2nd quarter 1973	1st quarter 1973	4th quarter 1972
High Court	319	197	286	263	369
County Courts	731	656	637	716	664
Total	1,050	853	923	979	1,033
Deeds of Arrangement Total number registered	21	17	33	29	21

Information regarding the quarter ended 31 December 1973 was published in greater detail, with an analysis of the bankruptcies in the respective Courts, in the *London Gazette* dated 16 May 1974.

New companies incorporated in Northern Ireland during March

During March, 56 private companies with a total nominal capital of £1,063,400 were incorporated in Northern Ireland.

During the period January-March, 158 companies with a total nominal capital of £2,494,800 were incorporated as compared with 147 companies with a total nominal capital of £1,736,260 incorporated in the same period in 1973.

Correction

In the notification of new companies incorporated in Northern Ireland during February, (*Trade and Industry*, 11 April, page 105) the words '1 private unlimited company with a nominal capital of £10,000', should be deleted.

Northern Ireland index of production

The provisional index of production for March 1974 is 176. This is 3 points higher than the index for February 1974 and 1 point lower than for March 1973.

The index numbers for the main industrial groups with the increase or decrease on March 1973 shown in brackets are: Textiles 263 (—15 points); clothing 141 (+4); engineering and metals 129 (+1); food, drink and tobacco 130 (+4); timber and furniture 170 (+22); mineral products 188 (—5); other manufacturing industries 284 (—5); gas, electricity and water 242 (+2).

New edition of BTA's 'Digest of Tourist Statistics'

In the six years from 1966 to 1972 the numbers of overseas visitors coming annually to Britain increased from just under four million to more than seven million. During the same period Britain's annual earnings from overseas visitors, including fares paid to British air and shipping lines, leapt from £299 million to £720 million.

These and many other facts and figures are revealed in the new edition of the British Tourist Authority's *Digest of Tourist Statistics*.

Among the subjects covered are the UK's travel and fares accounts, the value of tourism to the British economy, the Department of Industry's International Passenger Survey, annual overseas visitor arrivals and expenditure from 1946, the monthly distribution of overseas visitor arrivals, numbers of arrivals and expenditure by visitors from individual countries, and the popularity among overseas visitors of British tourist centres and regions.

Sections are devoted to surveys of holidays taken by British people over the past two decades. There is also information on hotels, giving both numbers and annual occupancy rates.

Digest of Tourist Statistics, No. 4, costs £3.50, plus 10p postage, and can be obtained from the British Tourist Authority, 64 St. James's Street, London SW1A 1NF.

Foreign arrivals in the United Kingdom during March

During March 1974 388,000 foreign visitors, including all travellers from EEC countries, arrived in the United Kingdom, 12 per cent more than in March 1973 report the Department of Trade and the British Tourist Authority. (The figures exclude visitors from the Irish Republic and Commonwealth citizens.)

The distinct improvement in the figures reflects a settled climate for tourism in March, though arrivals from the United States were still running at a low level, now 20 per cent down in the first quarter of this year compared with the same quarter of 1973. In total, arrivals in the first quarter were 5 per cent higher than last year.

The seasonally adjusted series show a flat or rising trend with the exception of the lower level in the series for the United States.

Notes

The figures in the table are limited to foreign nationals, excluding Commonwealth citizens and citizens of the Irish Republic.

For non-EEC countries visitors entering for a stay of under one year are shown while, for EEC countries, total arrivals are shown irrespective of their purpose of visit or length of stay. This follows the entry of the United Kingdom into the EEC, since when citizens of Community countries are generally admitted to the United Kingdom without having to state their purpose of visit, or expected length of stay.

Seasonally adjusted figures: Simple comparisons of monthly figures between one year and another, or between adjacent months can be misleading. The seasonally adjusted figures provide a better basis for comparison with other months, or for judging current trends. In estimating the seasonal adjustments allowance has been made for changes in the seasonal pattern, which have been in the direction of a spreading of the tourist season, with some reduction in the summer peak relative to the rest of the year. Adjustment was also made for the effect of the varying date of Easter on numbers of Western European visitors.

Foreign arrivals

Thousands per month

	Total arrivals from EEC countries (excluding Irish Republic)		Foreign visitors from non-EEC countries							
			Rest of Western Europe (non-EEC)		United States		Other foreign countries		Total non-EEC countries	
1967	126		30		70		23		123	
1968	144		34		73		29		136	
1969	174		40		95		35		170	
1970	199		47		117		41		205	
1971	214		53		129		46		228	
1972	232		59		134		51		244	
1973	265		70		131		62		263	
	UA	SA	UA	SA	UA	SA	UA	SA	UA	SA
1973										
January	139	258	35	64	60	143	34	55	129	262
February	132	265	36	67	51	145	29	56	116	268
March	170	265	44	65	88	142	46	69	178	276
April	334	242	78	76	129	155	49	61	256	292
May	266	242	56	58	167	137	61	61	284	256
June	299	259	88	67	196	125	73	61	357	253
July	535	253	142	66	228	115	106	61	476	242
August	408	256	89	71	197	108	101	60	387	239
September	278	263	74	71	181	123	91	63	346	257
October	242	289	73	72	122	127	64	63	259	262
November	186	319	63	86	83	128	46	73	192	287
December	186	264	57	72	66	120	47	64	170	256
1974										
January	141	262	38	69	50	122	40	66	128	257
February	132	267	38	70	42	122	35	68	115	260
March	216	275	53	69	68	112	52	76	173	257
Jan.-March 1973	440		116		199		109		423	
Jan.-March 1974	489		129		160		127		415	

Total arrivals = all persons admitted, including long stay and short stay visitors from EEC countries

Foreign visitors = all persons entering for visits of under one year from non-EEC countries excluding Commonwealth countries.

UA = unadjusted. SA = seasonally adjusted. Source: Home Office

Sales by wholesale textile houses

Sales by wholesale textile houses in March showed an increase of 25 per cent on a year earlier, compared with a decrease of 4 per cent in January and an increase of 8 per cent in February.

The value of stocks at the end of March was 3 per cent higher than a year earlier.

Comparisons with March 1973 are affected by abnormal trading conditions that month immediately preceding the introduction of VAT.

TABLE 1 Total sales and stocks

Index numbers and *percentage increase compared with a year earlier* 1950 = 100

	Value of home sales		Value of stocks end period	
1966	110	*−3*	..	..
1967	104	*−5*	..	..
1968	108	*4*	..	..
1969	103	*−5*	..	..
1970	107	*4*	..	..
1971	116	*8*	..	..
1972	121	*5*	..	..
1973	134	*11*	..	..
1972 2nd quarter	111	*4*	143	*8*
3rd quarter	123	*7*	154	*4*
4th quarter	149	*6*	169	*12*
1973 1st quarter	120	*18*	184	*12*
2nd quarter	123	*11*	171	*17*
3rd quarter	130	*6*	173	*12*
4th quarter	163	*10*	204	*21*
1974 1st quarter	134	*12*	189	*3*
1973 March	146	*13*	184	*12*
April	133	*10*	163	*11*
May	114	*9*	173	*15*
June	121	*14*	171	*17*
July	107	*5*	173	*15*
August	124	*9*	179	*19*
September	159	*3*	173	*12*
October	184	*12*	162	*16*
November	154	*13*	203	*21*
December	151	*4*	204	*21*
1974 January	83	*−4*	179	*11*
February	135	*8*	184	*9*
March	182	*25*	189	*3*

TABLE 2 Analysis by department

Percentage increase compared with a year earlier

	Sales		Stocks(‡)
	March 1974	January-March 1974	March 1974
Women's knitted outerwear, blouses and skirts	69	25	−1
Women's coats, costumes, furs and raincoats	−1	−4	−1
Women's underwear	52	31	23
Women's hose and children's socks	31	3	—
Women's millinery	10	3	5
Haberdashery, ribbons and wool	51	16	5
Children's wear	67	17	−11
Men's and boys' shirts, pyjamas and outfitting	8	12	−17
Gloves	113	56	−3
Piece-goods and nets	32	2	18
Household textiles	45	33	92
Floor coverings, furniture and hardware	8	2	−1
Boots and shoes	49	11	23
Total†	25	11	3

† Including some items not included among the sub-headings.
‡ Values at cost.

Notes

These statistics are prepared by Textile Distributors' Association. Inquiries should be addressed to the Secretary, The Textile Distributors' Association, 3 Berners Street, London W1P 4JP (tel. 01-580 2902).

Acquisitions and mergers in the first quarter of 1974

This note sets out the statistics of acquisitions and mergers of industrial and commercial companies up to and including the first quarter of 1974.

Acquisition activity in the first quarter was at its lowest level since 1971 (see Table 1). There were 191 acquisitions of industrial and commercial companies reported in the financial press during the quarter involving a consideration of £253 million compared with a quarterly average of 301 acquisitions purchased for £326 million during 1973.

The average consideration paid per company rose slightly from £1.1 million in 1973 to £1.3 million in the first quarter. But this increase was wholly accounted for by two large acquisitions in the first quarter each involving an expenditure of more than £25 million, which accounted for 46½ per cent of the total consideration. During 1973 there were seven such large acquisitions which accounted for only 21½ per cent of the total consideration. The largest acquisition in the quarter was the acquisition of Shipping Industrial Holdings by Navcot Shipping (Holdings) for £90 million.

The fall in acquisition activity was reflected in both the acquisitions of independent companies and the sales of subsidiary companies. The purchase of independent companies continues to account for three-quarters of all acquisitions.

The importance of cash payments increased still further in the first quarter. They accounted for 75 per cent of the total consideration, compared with 53 per cent in 1973 and 19½ per cent in 1972. The proportion accounted for by the issue of ordinary shares fell still further from 36 per cent in 1973 to 20 per cent in the first quarter compared with 57½ per cent in 1972. Issues of fixed interest securities also declined in importance from 11 per cent in 1973 to 5 per cent in the first quarter.

There were only nine acquisitions of foreign companies by United Kingdom companies in the first quarter at a cost of £10 million compared with the 1973 quarterly average of 22 acquisitions at a cost of over £40 million. There were no acquisitions of United Kingdom companies by foreign companies reported in the first quarter.

Tables 1 and 2 are taken from a more detailed analysis of company acquisitions published this month in a Business Monitor, M7, Acquisitions and Mergers of Companies (obtainable from HMSO each quarter for an annual subscription of 37½p). The Business Monitor also contains tables analysing acquisitions and mergers by industry.

Notes and definitions

This analysis of acquisitions and mergers involving industrial and commercial companies in the United Kingdom is based on reports in the financial press supplemented by special inquiries to companies to determine the form, value and timing of particular acquisitions.

Acquisitions and mergers involving financial companies (insurance, banking, etc.) are not covered in this note, although the Bank of England prepares an analysis of such acquisitions which is published in the *Bank of England Quarterly Bulletin*.

The values shown relate in general to expenditure during the current period, excluding any previous investments in the company acquired. Where possible, values are market values, ie the cash paid or the market price at date of issue of shares or loan stock issued. Where market values are not available (as in the case of shares, etc., issued by non-quoted companies) or the cash consideration is not disclosed, acquisitions are in general valued at the net book value of the acquired company.

No method of valuing acquisitions is altogether free from objection and in comparing this series over time one must allow, in addition to the general inflation of values, for the considerable short-term fluctuations in share prices which will be reflected in a series where a considerable proportion of expenditure takes the form of share exchanges which are valued at market prices. For example, industrial share prices as measured by the *Financial Times* actuaries index rose by 18 per cent between 1970 and 1971, increased by a further 27 per cent in 1972, and fell by 13 per cent in 1973.

Where the acquired company was a subsidiary of another United Kingdom company, it was classified to the category of inter-group sales. Acquisitions between subsidiaries of the same company group, arising from internal reorganisation, have been ignored.

As far as possible, acquisitions are recorded at the date when the transaction is finalised (eg when a bid is declared unconditional). This date may be considerably later than the date when a bid is first announced in the press though preceding the date when the shares in the acquired company are surrendered.

TABLE 1 Acquisitions and mergers within the United Kingdom

	Acquisitions of independent companies			Mergers†			Total			Sales of subsidiaries between company groups			Total number of acquisitions		
	Number Acquiring	Number Acquired	Value £ million	Number Acquiring	Number Acquired	Value £ million	Number Acquiring	Number Acquired	Value £ million	Number Acquiring	Number Acquired	Value £ million	Number Acquiring	Number Acquired	Value £ million
1969	593	742	961.6	2	2	7.6	595	744	969.2	91	102	99.7	686	846	1,068.9
1970	484	608	954.1	6	6	42.5	490	614	996.6	139	179	125.9	629	793	1,122.5
1971	498	620	745.6	—	—	—	498	620	745.6	189	264	165.5	687	884	911.1
1972	710	931	2,336.9	6	7	9.3	716	938	2,346.2	212	272	185.4	928	1,210	2,531.6
1973	722	949	1,055.2	2	2	2.3	724	951	1,057.5	205	254	246.8	929	1,205	1,304.3
1972 1st quarter	156	207	426.0	2	2	0.1	158	209	426.1	53	69	39.6	211	278	465.7
2nd quarter	192	260	375.2	3	3	1.5	195	263	376.7	52	63	44.8	247	326	421.5
3rd quarter	166	220	666.2	1	2	7.7	167	222	673.9	50	63	52.2	217	285	726.1
4th quarter	196	244	869.5	—	—	—	196	244	869.5	57	77	48.8	253	321	918.3
1973 1st quarter	195	278	280.4	—	—	—	195	278	280.4	63	84	43.3	258	362	323.7
2nd quarter	164	203	179.4	—	—	—	164	203	179.4	43	53	26.2	207	256	205.6
3rd quarter	173	224	297.4	2	2	2.3	175	226	299.7	40	50	132.0	215	276	431.7
4th quarter	190	244	298.0	—	—	—	190	244	298.0	59	67	45.3	249	311	343.3
1974 1st quarter	116	149	231.3	—	—	—	116	149	231.3	36	42	21.3	152	191	252.6

† A merger is reckoned as the acquisition of the smaller company by the larger company involved in the transaction and valued at the market value of the smaller company's share of the newly formed company.

TABLE 2 Size distribution of acquisitions within the United Kingdom

	1972		1973		1973 Q2		1973 Q3		1973 Q4		1974 Q1	
Expenditure (£ million)	Number Acquired	Value £m.	Number Acquired	Value £m.	Number Acquired	Value £m.	Number Acquired	Value £m.	Number Acquired	Value £m.	Number Acquired	Value £m.
Over 25	13	1,322.2	7	281.2	1	29.9	4	193.4	1	29.8	2	117.5
Over 5 and up to 25	57	604.8	50	471.7	7	60.9	10	89.4	16	163.0	4	43.6
Over 2 and up to 5	77	239.8	57	171.1	12	37.3	14	40.3	21	63.1	12	37.2
2 or less	1,063	364.9	1,091	380.3	236	77.5	248	108.6	273	87.4	173	54.3
Total	1,210	2,531.7	1,205	1,304.3	256	205.6	276	431.7	311	343.3	191	252.6

UK trade by air in 1973

United Kingdom trade by air increased its share of total trade in 1973 as it has in each year during the last decade. Trade by air accounted for nearly 17 per cent of total exports and 15 per cent of total imports. The growth in both total trade and air trade over the past six years is shown in Table 1. Exports by air were 37 per cent higher in 1973 than in 1972 compared with a 26 per cent increase in non-air exports. Imports by air grew by 49 per cent last year substantially higher than the 19 per cent increase achieved in 1972; undoubtedly higher world prices and the depreciation of sterling contributed to this increase. In comparison non-air imports in 1973 rose by 41 per cent.

Exports by air in 1973 were £2,111 million, 17 per cent of total exports on an Overseas Trade Statistics basis. In absolute terms exports by air in 1973 were £572 million higher than in 1972, a growth of 37 per cent. The commodity composition of exports, shown in Table 2, indicates that of this increase £172 million was due to higher air exports in non-metallic mineral manufactures (mainly diamonds), £118 million in non-electrical machinery, £52 million in electrical machinery and £48 million in non-ferrous metals. The principal commodity groups exported by air were non-electrical machinery which accounted for 24 per cent of air exports, non-metallic minerals manufactures 17 per cent, electrical machinery 10 per cent and transport equipment 7 per cent. Air cargo is important for goods with high value in relation to size and weight; compared with 17 per cent of total exports sent by air, 46 per cent of live animals were sent by air, 44 per cent of clothing, 42 per cent of medicinal and pharmaceutical products and 35 per cent of non-metallic minerals (mainly diamonds).

Imports by air in 1973 were £2,369 million, nearly 50 per cent higher than in 1972 and accounted for 15 per cent of all imports. The commodity composition of imports (see Table 3) indicates that much

TABLE 1 Value of trade compared with total trade

Year	Exports			Imports		
	Total £m fob	By air £m fob	Per cent	Total £m cif	By air £m cif	Per cent
1968	6,433.9	831.5	12.9	7,897.5	929.4	11.8
1969	7,339.4	978.9	13.3	8,315.0	1,082.6	13.0
1970	8,061.1	1,095.1	13.6	9,036.8	1,220.2	13.5
1971	9,181.4	1,304.1	14.2	9,821.1	1,335.4	13.6
1972	9,745.8	1,539.4	15.8	11,138.3	1,584.9	14.2
1973	12,455.1	2,111.0	16.9	15,854.4	2,368.9	14.9

TABLE 1a Increase in value of United Kingdom trade (per cent on a year earlier)

Year	Exports		Imports	
	Total	By air	Total	By air
1968	23	37	23	45
1969	14	18	5	16
1970	10	12	9	13
1971	14	19	9	9
1972	6	18	13	19
1973	28	37	42	49

TABLE 2 Commodity composition of exports

	Selected divisions	1972			1973		
		Total £m fob	By air £m fob	Per cent of total exports	Total £m fob	By air £m fob	Per cent of total exports
†00	Live animals (excluding zoo animals, dogs and cats)	40.4	10.9	27	58.8	26.9	46
21	Hides, skins and furskins, undressed	75.6	29.9	40	80.7	27.6	34
51	Chemical elements and compounds	254.6	25.1	10	364.5	36.6	10
54	Medicinal and pharmaceutical products	180.8	75.3	42	221.2	93.5	42
55	Essential oils and perfume materials; toilet, polishing and cleansing preparations	77.3	4.9	6	96.9	5.8	6
61	Leather, leather manufactures, not elsewhere specified, and dressed furskins	67.0	24.4	36	83.8	27.5	33
62	Rubber manufactures, not elsewhere specified	96.4	4.2	4	121.2	5.1	4
65	Textile yarn, fabrics, made up articles and related products	445.3	44.4	10	589.6	51.4	9
66	Non-metallic mineral manufactures, not elsewhere specified	617.7	185.1	30	1,010.0	356.8	35
68	Non-ferrous metals	348.3	61.6	18	537.8	110.0	20
69	Manufactures of metal, not elsewhere specified	290.4	16.5	6	338.9	21.7	6
71	Machinery, other than electric	2,054.2	387.9	19	2,413.0	506.1	21
72	Electrical machinery, apparatus and appliances	661.9	166.7	25	807.3	218.9	27
73	Transport equipment	1,252.2	127.9	10	1,468.2	155.9	11
84	Clothing, knitted or crocheted articles, including elastic or rubberised fabrics and articles of fur	144.4	64.2	44	179.6	79.5	44
85	Footwear, gaiters and the like	32.3	5.3	16	35.6	5.8	16
86	Professional, scientific and controlling instruments; photographic and optical goods; watches and clocks	273.6	90.8	33	343.8	110.6	32
89	Miscellaneous manufactured articles not elsewhere specified	413.7	111.7	27	513.7	153.1	30
	All other goods	2,419.8	102.8	4	3,190.8	118.3	4
	Total	9,745.8	1,539.4	16	12,455.1	2,111.0	17

† Figures shown under this heading, include horses exported temporarily for racing, breeding or other purposes.

TABLE 3 Commodity composition of imports

	Selected divisions	1972			1973		
		Total £m cif	By air £m cif	Per cent of total imports	Total £m cif	By air £m cif	Per cent of total imports
†00	Live animals (excluding zoo animals, dogs and cats)	72.0	7.5	10	80.2	19.6	24
21	Hides, skins and furskins, undressed	85.1	37.2	44	112.5	43.0	38
28	Metalliferous ores and metal scrap	284.1	29.9	11	389.5	59.0	15
51	Chemical elements and compounds	265.2	40.7	15	360.8	48.9	14
54	Medicinal and pharmaceutical products	43.7	20.6	47	66.9	30.3	45
55	Essential oils and perfume materials, toilet, polishing and cleansing preparations	32.7	7.4	23	51.6	11.6	22
61	Leather, leather manufactures, not elswhere specified, and dressed furskins	47.2	6.3	13	68.4	8.9	13
65	Textile yarn, fabrics, made up articles and related products	369.7	50.8	14	514.9	57.9	11
66	Non-metallic mineral manufactures, not elsewhere specified	564.3	362.0	64	857.4	602.4	70
68	Non-ferrous metals	446.6	21.0	5	660.0	35.9	5
69	Manufactures of metal, not elsewhere specified	136.3	19.5	14	205.3	28.7	14
71	Machinery other than electric	1,040.5	365.6	35	1,526.4	543.5	36
72	Electrical machinery, apparatus and appliances	527.8	212.6	40	847.8	315.2	37
73	Transport equipment	609.0	45.6	7	853.1	64.5	8
84	Clothing, knitted or crocheted articles, including elastic or rubberised fabrics and articles of fur	218.8	53.1	24	333.5	68.1	20
85	Footwear, gaiters and the like	62.4	6.9	11	84.4	11.7	14
86	Professional, scientific and controlling intruments, photographic and optical goods, watches and clocks	199.7	104.5	52	282.2	139.6	49
89	Miscellaneous manufactured articles, not elsewhere specified	347.4	129.0	37	533.7	200.5	38
	All other goods	5,785.8	64.9	1	8,025.8	79.6	1
	Total	11,138.3	1,584.9	14	15,854.4	2,368.9	15

† Figures shown under this heading, include horses temporarily imported for racing, breeding or other purposes.

of the increase of £784 million in imports by air was accounted for by deliveries of non-metallic mineral manufactures (largely diamonds) (£240 million higher), non-electrical machinery (£178 million higher) and electrical machinery (£103 million higher). These three commodity groups were the principal ones imported by air accounting for 25 per cent, 23 per cent and 13 per cent respectively of all air imports. Some 70 per cent of imports of non-metallic mineral manufactures arrived by air, 49 per cent of professional and scientific goods, 45 per cent of medicinal and pharmaceutical products and 36 per cent of machinery.

The broad area pattern of United Kingdom trade by air is shown in Table 4. Western Europe took 50 per cent of UK exports by air in 1973, a similar proportion to Western Europe's share in total exports, and valued at £1,045 million were 39 per cent higher than in 1972. One-quarter of air exports went to North America and by value were 33 per cent higher than in the previous year. The percentage of exports by air to the Sterling Area outside Europe fell slightly and accounted for 12 per cent of air exports. Western Europe was the largest source of imports by air; at £1,097 million they were 47 per cent higher than in 1972 and accounted for 46 per cent of all air imports, a similar proportion to that in 1972. Compared with 1972 there was a slight fall in the proportion of imports arriving by air from North America (29 per cent) which was offset by a slight gain in the proportion arriving from the Sterling Area outside Europe (12 per cent).

Additional information on the area breakdown of United Kingdom trade by air is provided in Table 5. The United States continued to be our largest single country market in air trade accounting for 21 per cent of all air exports, a proportion similar to that in 1972. Air exports to the United States valued at £453 million in 1973 were 35 per cent higher than in the previous year. Imports by air from the United States accounted for a quarter of air trade and 38 per cent of all imports from the United States. Within Western Europe the proportion of all exports sent by air to Belgium, Switzerland, Sweden, Portugal, Austria and Spain increased while other European countries showed slight declines. The high proportion of air trade with Switzerland reflects an increase in entrepot trade in precious stones. Among other major markets exports by air to South Africa, Australia, and Canada grew strongly. Imports by air last year increased strongly from South Africa accounting for 24 per cent of all imports from South Africa compared with 9 per cent in 1972.

Statistical note

The valuation of exports and imports in this article is on the Overseas Trade Statistics basis. While estimates for total trade are now published on a Balance of Payments basis in the monthly trade article, the adjustments to that basis are not available for the main commodity groups or trading areas, nor for the analysis of trade by air.

Complete newly-built aircraft flown in and out under their own power are included in the totals for all United Kingdom trade but are excluded from the figures of trade by air. No allowance is made either in the totals of trade or in the figures of trade by air for the under-recording of exports in 1968-1971 (for the latest assessment, see *Trade and Industry*, 15 February 1973, page 347).

Imports by parcel post are included in total imports but are not available for inclusion in the figures of imports by air.

Exports by parcel post are included both in total exports and in exports by air.

TABLE 4 Exports to, and imports from, various areas by air

	Exports			Imports		
	1972 £m fob	1973 £m fob	Per cent of total	1972 £m cif	1973 £m cif	Per cent of total
Sterling Area outside Europe	201.0	260.4	12.3	155.7	273.9	11.6
Western Europe	749.5	1,045.3	49.5	747.1	1,097.2	46.3
North America	408.6	543.8	25.8	469.5	682.8	28.8
Latin America	27.6	39.0	1.8	13.2	22.2	0.9
Soviet Union and Eastern Europe	14.9	20.6	1.0	118.8	186.0	7.9
Non-Sterling Middle East	60.6	82.5	3.9	18.5	26.3	1.1
Rest of the World	77.2	119.4	5.7	62.2	80.5	3.4
Total	1,539.4	2,111.0	100.0	1,584.9	2,368.9	100.0

TABLE 5 Exports to, and imports from, selected countries

	Exports						Imports					
	1972			1973			1972			1973		
Selected countries	Total £m fob	By air £m fob	Per cent of total exports	Total £m fob	By air £m fob	Per cent of total exports	Total £m cif	By air £m cif	Per cent of total imports	Total £m cif	By air £m cif	Per cent of total imports
Western Germany	589.1	113.1	19.2	785.2	142.1	18.1	840.6	128.4	15.3	1,351.2	196.5	14.5
Netherlands	451.4	43.9	9.7	603.6	53.6	8.9	614.3	48.0	7.8	911.7	62.2	6.8
Belgium	386.8	34.7	9.0	612.2	76.9	12.6	308.5	56.7	18.4	434.3	63.4	14.6
France	511.5	131.2	25.7	678.3	156.0	23.0	603.4	130.8	21.7	979.6	194.7	19.9
Italy	283.9	59.5	21.0	386.1	75.8	19.6	353.1	36.7	10.4	504.4	53.6	10.6
Sweden	404.9	31.0	7.7	514.3	43.3	8.4	512.1	20.1	3.9	740.0	26.3	3.6
Denmark	238.1	15.2	6.4	329.2	20.0	6.1	348.0	11.8	3.4	477.9	15.1	3.2
Switzerland	367.4	164.2	44.7	520.9	288.7	55.4	368.9	200.8	54.4	591.6	349.1	59.0
Portugal	111.7	10.8	9.7	147.5	17.1	11.6	125.6	31.7	25.2	188.6	46.0	24.4
Austria	119.4	12.1	10.1	136.7	14.4	10.5	128.1	11.6	9.1	178.2	15.9	8.9
Spain	170.6	22.1	13.0	199.3	29.7	14.9	138.1	7.7	5.6	203.9	11.0	5.4
Irish Republic	469.4	65.9	14.0	625.7	67.9	10.9	444.7	43.2	9.7	526.6	37.0	7.0
United States of America	1,208.0	336.4	27.8	1,512.9	453.0	29.9	1,170.6	415.4	35.5	1,610.3	610.4	37.9
Canada	379.8	71.6	18.9	413.8	90.3	21.8	604.4	46.5	7.7	735.6	63.7	8.7
India	140.9	28.0	19.9	132.9	33.1	24.9	112.2	20.1	17.9	148.6	19.3	13.0
Australia	317.9	27.7	8.7	404.1	42.0	10.4	283.1	6.6	2.3	340.8	9.5	2.8
Republic of South Africa	308.3	23.7	7.7	374.4	32.8	8.8	291.6	27.1	9.3	399.5	95.3	23.9
Japan	171.5	57.4	33.5	272.6	92.3	33.9	315.0	27.7	8.8	443.4	37.9	8.5
Total	6,630.8	1,248.5	18.8	8,649.6	1,728.8	20.0	7,562.4	1,270.8	16.8	10,766.2	1,906.7	17.7
All other countries	3,115.0	291.0	9.3	3,805.6	382.2	10.0	3,575.9	314.2	8.8	5,088.3	462.2	9.1
Grand total	9,745.8	1,539.4	15.8	12,455.1	2,111.0	16.9	11,138.3	1,584.9	14.2	15,854.4	2,368.9	14.9

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Motor vehicle output in April

Summary

Car production fell back in the four-week period ending 27 April from the recorded and seasonally adjusted rates attained in February and March. This was partly due to weakness in demand at home and overseas but to a greater extent to the incidence of industrial disputes within the industry. Commercial vehicle output, however, continued to recover from the effects of restricted working earlier in the year and showed an increase, in both actual and seasonally adjusted terms for the third successive month.

The recorded production of motor cars at 115,328 units – an average of 28,832 per week – was 8 per cent lower than a year earlier, when output was also depressed. Commercial vehicle output at 31,800 units, a weekly rate of 7,950, was the highest since December 1973 and 5 per cent more than in April 1973.

(The comments which follow are unless otherwise stated based on the seasonally adjusted figures in Table 2.)

Cars

Car output in April was 119,000 units, seasonally adjusted; this was 8 per cent lower than output in March and 18 per cent below the monthly average for 1973 as a whole. Although output in April was constrained by industrial disputes and probably to some extent by shortages of components, the general weakness of demand appears also to have been a factor. Provisional figures of new car registrations in Great Britain during April (published by the Department of the Environment on 22 May) show that home demand in April, as measured by registrations of new cars, was more than 9 per cent below that in March, and 30 per cent below the monthly average in 1973. Lack of demand for cars in world markets may also have affected UK production of cars for export which fell by nearly 17 per cent from the level of the previous month.

Commercial vehicles

Output in April of commercial vehicles was 34.2 thousand units, the highest since October 1973. Compared with the previous month, production rose by 7 per cent, with output for the home and export markets higher by 9 and 4 per cent respectively.

TABLE 1 Recorded production

Production figures of road motor vehicles cover complete vehicles, chassis with engines for delivery as such and un-assembled vehicles for export. Road tractors are included bu t battery operated road vehicles are excluded.
Production for export may differ from actual exports as recorded in the Overseas Trade Statistics because of differences in timing and coverage.

		Passenger cars (including taxis)				Commercial road vehicles			
	No. of weeks	For home market	For export	Totals	Weekly average	For home market	For export	Totals	Weekly average
1967	52	988,273	563,740	1,552,013	29,846	245,692	139,414	385,106	7,406
1968	52	1,013,163	802,773	1,815,936	34,922	259,331	149,855	409,186	7,869
1969	53	892,758	824,315	1,717,073	32,398	272,998	192,778	465,776	8,788
1970	52	918,109	722,857	1,640,966	31,557	267,407	190,125	457,532	8,799
1971	52	1,027,462	714,478	1,741,940	33,499	268,278	187,928	456,206	8,773
1972	52	1,307,881	613,430	1,921,311	36,948	272,649	135,470	408,119	7,848
1973	52	1,142,216	605,105	1,747,321	33,602	257,574	159,045	416,619	8,012
1974	52								
1973 1st quarter	13	320,052	158,532	478,584	36,814	69,954	36,346	106,300	8,177
2nd quarter	13	290,253	155,749	446,002	34,308	69,399	39,980	109,379	8,414
3rd quarter	13	229,505	122,313	351,818	27,063	54,106	36,031	90,137	6,934
4th quarter	13	302,406	168,511	470,917	36,224	64,115	46,688	110,803	8,523
1974 1st quarter	13	237,235	150,688	387,923	29,840	52,641	36,845	89,486	6,884
2nd quarter	13								
3rd quarter	13								
4th quarter	13								
1973 January	5	135,970	61,705	197,675	39,535	28,419	12,597	41,016	8,203
February	4	89,426	48,206	137,632	34,408	21,401	12,054	33,455	8,364
March	4	94,656	48,621	143,277	35,819	20,134	11,695	31,829	7,957
April	4	80,647	45,380	126,027	31,507	18,957	11,278	30,235	7,559
May	5	111,333	62,019	173,352	34,670	26,613	13,684	40,297	8,059
June	4	98,273	48,350	146,623	36,656	23,829	15,018	38,847	9,712
July	4	66,106	33,344	99,450	24,863	16,054	12,041	28,095	7,024
August	4	76,537	41,956	118,493	29,623	14,437	8,754	23,191	5,798
September	5	86,862	47,013	133,875	26,775	23,615	15,236	38,851	7,770
October	4	100,661	56,057	156,718	39,180	23,475	16,046	39,521	9,880
November	4	98,926	55,819	154,745	38,686	18,659	12,490	31,149	7,787
December	5	102,819	56,635	159,454	31,891	21,981	18,152	40,133	8,027
1974 January	4	61,781	37,628	99,409	24,852	13,989	9,595	23,584	5,896
February	4	73,721	50,721	124,442	31,110	16,048	11,428	27,476	6,869
March	5	101,730	62,339	164,069	32,814	22,604	15,822	38,426	7,685
April	4	74,411	40,917	115,328	28,832	18,891	12,909	31,800	7,950
May	4								
June	5								
July	4								
August	4								
September	5								
October	4								
November	4								
December	5								

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TABLE 2 Production – seasonally adjusted

The seasonally adjusted series has been adjusted to exclude the effect of a regularly recurring influence (eg holidays) but the figures still reflect the effect of factors that do not recur regularly (eg strikes).

Care should be taken not to interpret changes between one month and another as necessarily indicating the underlying trend. The averages in the latest three months and in the previous three months give a more reliable guide to recent changes.

MONTHLY AVERAGE — Thousands

	Passenger cars			Commercial vehicles		
	For home market	For export	Total	For home market	For export	Total
1967	82	47	129	20.5	11.6	32.1
1968	84	67	151	21.6	12.5	34.1
1969	74	69	143	22.7	16.1	38.8
1970	77	60	137	22.3	15.8	38.1
1971	86	59	145	22.3	14.7	38.0
1972	109	51	160	22.7	11.3	34.0
1973	95	50	145	21.5	13.2	34.7
1974						
1973 1st quarter	99	47	146	22.2	11.8	34.0
2nd quarter	91	48	139	21.7	12.1	33.8
3rd quarter	97	51	148	23.0	14.5	37.5
4th quarter	93	56	149	19.0	14.6	33.6
1974 1st quarter	74	44	118	16.9	12.0	28.9
2nd quarter						
3rd quarter						
4th quarter						
1973 January	111	50	161	22.9	11.7	34.6
February	92	44	136	22.5	12.2	34.7
March	95	46	141	21.2	11.7	32.9
April	85	44	129	20.8	11.4	32.2
May	90	50	140	20.7	10.4	31.1
June	97	52	149	23.7	14.4	38.1
July	108	54	162	24.6	16.6	41.2
August	103	54	157	21.5	13.4	34.9
September	81	44	125	23.0	13.4	36.4
October	100	58	158	22.0	16.8	38.8
November	94	58	152	16.8	12.2	29.0
December	86	52	138	18.1	14.7	32.8
1974 January	64	38	102	14.3	11.5	25.8
February	77	47	124	17.1	11.7	28.8
March	82	48	130	19.2	12.7	31.9
April	79	40	119	21.0	13.2	34.2
May						
June						
July						
August						
September						
October						
November						
December						
Average of:						
Nov. 1973-Jan. 1974	82	49	131	16.4	12.8	29.2
Feb.- April 1974	79	45	124	19.1	12.5	31.7
Percentage change	−2	−9	−5	+16	−2	+8

Release dates of economic statistics to be published in June

This notice is issued by the Central Statistical Office on behalf of the Government Statistical Service and other organisations as a guide to the dates of publication of major economic series in June. The dates are those which Departments, or other organisations concerned, are aiming at, and would normally expect to meet. Exceptionally, there may be a delay resulting from unavoidable statistical problems of collection and compilation. Further inquiries about individual series should be addressed to the source named.

Publication date	Series	Method of release*	Source
June			
3 Mon.	Investment intentions of the manufacturing, distributive and service industries for 1974 and 1975	PN	Department of Industry
	Capital expenditure by the manufacturing, distributive and service industries (1st qtr.-prov.)	PN	Department of Industry
	Manufacturers' and distributors' stocks (1st qtr.-prov.)	PN	Department of Industry
4 Tues.	United Kingdom official reserves (May)	PN	Treasury
	Hire purchase and other instalment credit business (April)	PN	Department of Industry
	Retail trade (April-final)	PN	Department of Industry
	Slum clearance (1st qtr.-final)	PN	Department of the Environment
	Housing starts and completions (March and April)†	PN	Department of the Environment
	House improvement grants approved (March and April)†		
	Capital issues and redemptions (May)	PN	Bank of England
5 Wed.	London clearing banks' monthly statement (mid-May)	PN	CLCB
	UK banks' eligible liabilities, reserve assets, and reserve ratios (mid-May)	PN	Bank of England
6 Thurs.	Car and commercial vehicle production (May-prov.)	PN	Department of Industry
	Construction – output (1st qtr.)	PN	Department of the Environment
7 Fri.	Consolidated Fund and National Loans Fund (May)	London Gazette	Treasury
10 Mon.	Turnover of the catering trades (April)	PN	Department of Industry
	Wholesale price index numbers (May)	PN	Department of Industry
	Retail trade (May-prov.)	PN	Department of Industry
11 Tues.	Import and export unit value and volume indices and terms of Trade (Feb.)	PN	Department of Trade
12 Wed.	UK Balance of Payments (1st qtr.)	PN	CSO/ Treasury
13 Thurs.	Sales and orders in the engineering industries (Feb.)	T and I	Department of Industry
	Balance of payments current account and overseas trade figures (May)	PN	Department of Trade/ CSO
14 Fri.	Finished steel receipts, consumption and stock changes (1st qtr.-final)	PN	Department of Industry
	Crude steel production (May)	PN	BSC/BISPA
	UK banking statistics (1st qtr.)	Bulletin	Bank of England
	Money stock (1st qtr.)		
	Building Societies receipts and loans (May)	PN	BSA
17 Mon.	Quarterly analysis of bank advances (mid-May)	PN	Bank of England
	UK bank's assets and liabilities and the money stock (mid-May)	PN	Bank of England
19 Wed.	Basic rates of wages and normal weekly hours) (end May)	PN	Department of Employment
	Monthly index of average earnings (April)		
20 Thurs.	Unemployment (June-prov.)	PN	Department of Employment
	Unfilled vacancies (June-prov.)		
	Index of industrial production (April)	PN	CSO
	Car and commercial vehicle production (May-final)	PN	Department of Industry
21 Fri.	National Income and Expenditure (1st qtr.-prov.)	PN	CSO
	Retail prices index (May)	PN	Department of Employment
23 Sun.	National Savings monthly progress report (May)	PN	National Savings Committee
24 Mon.	New vehicle registrations (May)	PN	Department of the Environment
25 Tues.	Borrowing by local authorities (1st qtr.)	PN	CSO
27 Thur.	Energy Trends	T and I	Department of Energy
	Central government borrowing requirement (May)	Fin Stats	CSO/ Treasury
	Construction – new orders (April)	PN	Department of the Environment
	Bricks and cement production (May)	PN	Department of the Environment
	Unemployment (May-final)	Gazette	Department of Employment
	Employment in production industries (April)		
	Overtime and short-time working in manufacturing industries (April)		
	Stoppages of work due to industrial disputes (May)		
28 Fri.	National Food Survey report on consumption (1st qtr.)	PN	MAFF

* PN = Press Notice.

† These figures may be delayed owing to the effects of local government reorganisation.

'Economic Progress Report' for June

The main articles in the June issue of *Economic Progress Report*, now published, are as follows:

Incentives to invest; Wholesale prices; Monthly economic assessment; Economic Indicators.

Energy trends: gradual recovery in consumption and output

(Report by the Department of Energy)

The effects of the miners' national strike and oil supply difficulties are still reflected in inland energy consumption on a primary fuel input basis (Table 1) with the provisional level in March estimated at about 7½ per cent below that of the same period last year.

Both production of coal (Table 5) and productivity (Table 6) were below last year's levels, indicating that recovery from the strike and the preceding overtime ban was not yet complete. Recruitment to the workforce was at a high level and exceeded the low wastage figure so that manpower increased during the month, a reversal of the earlier trend. Total inland consumption of coal (Table 7) dropped by 9 per cent in April, with use in power stations 14 per cent down; although coke ovens' consumption was only 4 per cent below last year's level. Stocks of coal (Table 8), although much lower than a year ago, fell by less than 1 per cent in total during April. Distributed stocks (mainly at power stations) rose slightly during the month.

Natural gas supplies (Table 9) in March were over 30 per cent higher than in the corresponding period last year. About half the increase reflects additional sales to the CEGB. Much of the balance is accounted for by the displacement of town gas.

Refinery throughput of crude and process oils and the output of petroleum products (Table 14) were both some 7 per cent higher than in March last year, and the first quarter's figures were 4 per cent higher than the similar period last year. Inland deliveries of petroleum products (Table 15) were 8 per cent below March last year and 9 per cent below the first quarter of 1973. The overall position of major companies' oil stocks (Table 16) continued to improve as a result.

Note: Figures for the latest periods are liable to revision.

TABLE 1 Inland energy consumption: primary fuel input basis

Million tons of coal or coal equivalent

	Total	Coal	Petroleum	Natural gas	Nuclear electricity	Hydro electricity	Total†	Coal†	Petroleum†	Natural gas	Nuclear electricity	Hydro electricity
1968	307.0	164.5	125.6	4.3	10.1	2.2	306.4	164.1	125.7	4.3	10.1	2.2
1969	317.7	161.1	135.7	8.4	10.5	2.0	315.1	159.6	134.6	8.4	10.5	2.0
1970	328.0	154.4	145.6	16.0	9.4	2.6	327.9	154.2	145.7	16.0	9.4	2.6
1971	323.3	138.7	147.3	25.8	9.7	1.8	324.4	139.1	148.0	25.8	9.7	1.8
1972	327.7	120.9	157.6	36.7	10.5	2.0	327.6	120.9	157.5	36.7	10.5	2.0
1973 p	342.3	131.3	159.4	39.7	9.9	2.0	343.8	131.6	160.6	39.7	9.9	2.0
	Unadjusted							Seasonally adjusted (annual rate)				
1973 Jan.-Mar.	98.0	36.8	45.8	11.6	3.1	0.7	339.8	129.6	158.8	36.9	10.9	2.1
1974 Jan.-Mar. p	85.3	25.3	41.4	14.3	3.4	0.9	301.8	95.5	145.0	45.2	12.0	3.1
Per cent change	−13.0	−31.2	−9.6	+23.5	+10.1	+42.0	−11.2	−26.3	−8.7	+22.5	+9.8	+47.6
1973 March	35.6	13.6	17.0	3.7	1.1	0.2	337.9	131.2	159.5	36.6	10.6	2.0
1974 March p	33.0	10.9	15.6	4.9	1.3	0.3	314.6	107.0	145.1	47.1	12.4	2.3
Per cent change	− 7.6	−19.9	−8.1	+30.0	+16.5	+11.6	−6.9	−18.4	−9.0	+28.7	+16.7	+15.0

† Also temperature corrected.

TABLE 2 Inland energy consumption: heat supplied basis

Million therms

	Total primary energy	Used by fuel industries and losses in distribution	Final consumption						
			Total	Coal	Other solid fuels	Other coal derived fuels§	Petroleum	Gas†	Electricity
1968	78,816	23,647	55,169	13,613	6,507	732	24,063	4,434	5,820
1969	81,363	24,595	56,768	12,883	6,409	641	25,628	4,962	6,245
1970	83,481	25,541	57,940	11,839	6,008	621	27,198	5,720	6,554
1971	82,521	25,527	56,994	9,867	4,949	542	27,617	7,257	6,762
1972	83,847	25,796	58,051	8,086	4,612	513	28,634	9,193	7,014
1973 p	87,523	26,668	60,855	8,065	4,603	541	29,632	10,492	7,522
1972 1st quarter	22,695	6,853	15,842	2,001	1,060	92	7,936	2,754	1,999
2nd quarter	19,849	6,006	13,843	2,004	1,157	140	6,855	2,047	1,840
3rd quarter	17,524	5,464	12,060	1,716	1,166	132	6,043	1,608	1,395
4th quarter	23,779	7,473	16,306	2,364	1,229	149	7,800	2,784	1,980
1973 1st quarter	25,017	7,520	17,497	2,336	1,235	137	8,310	3,256	2,223
2nd quarter	20,436	6,194	14,242	1,950	1,128	145	6,989	2,290	1,740
3rd quarter p	17,886	5,541	12,345	1,645	1,081	141	6,256	1,745	1,477
4th quarter p	24,184	7,413	16,771	2,134	1,159	118	8,077	3,201	2,082

§ Coke oven gas, creosote/pitch mixtures and other liquid fuels derived from coal.

† Town gas and natural gas supplied direct.

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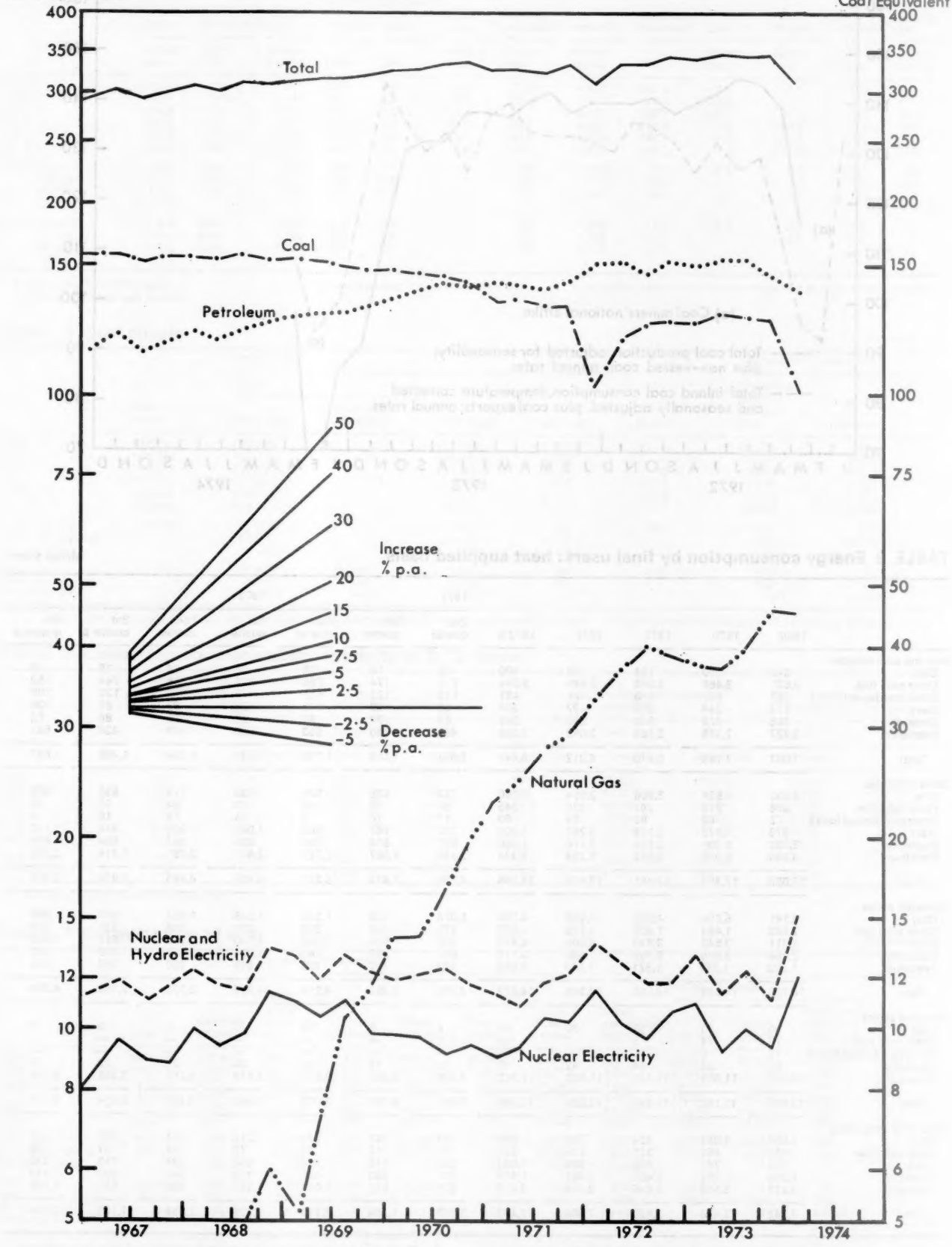

COAL PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION

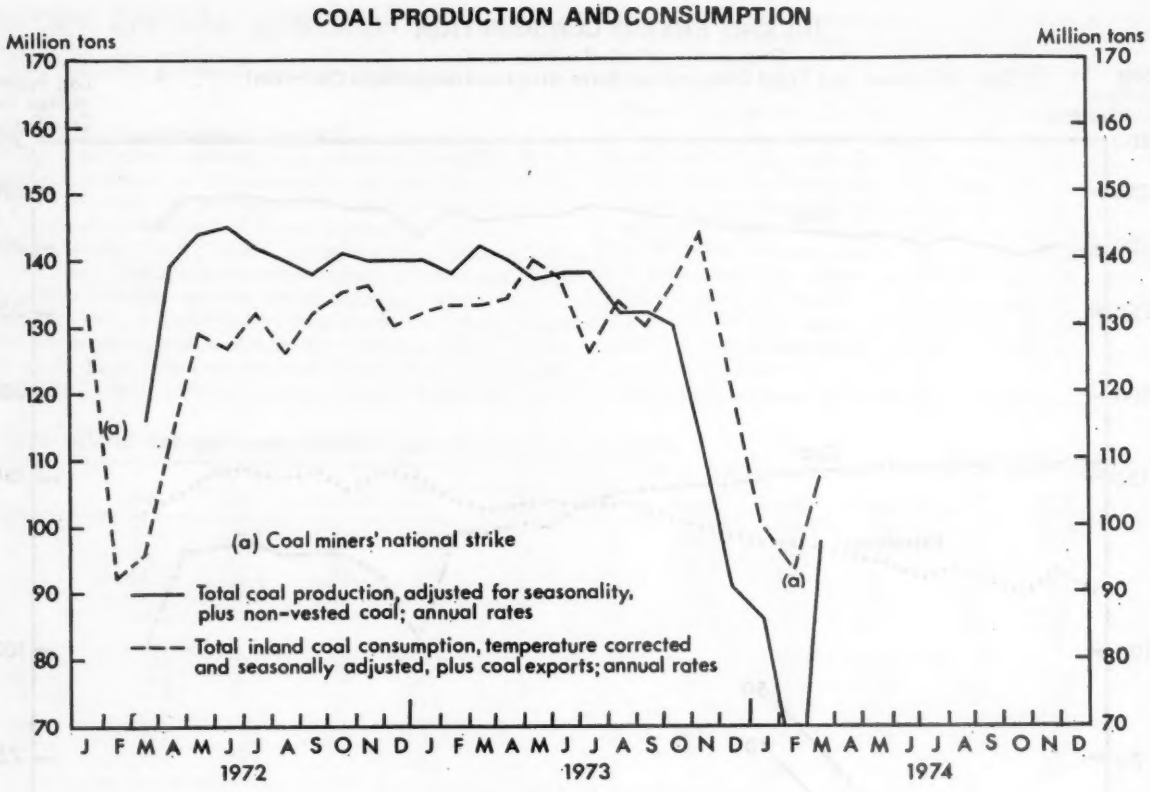

TABLE 3 Energy consumption by final users: heat supplied basis

Million therms

	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973 p	1972 2nd quarter	1972 3rd quarter	1972 4th quarter	1973 1st quarter	1973 2nd quarter	1973 3rd quarter p	1973 4th quarter p
Iron and steel industry												
Coal	240	210	154	93	100	20	18	29	31	18	15	36
Other solid fuel	3,521	3,485	3,049	2,899	3,044	772	774	786	801	748	744	753
Other coal derived fuels §	557	553	490	459	481	123	122	132	123	126	123	109
Gas†	174	244	343	437	394	98	92	146	104	97	87	106
Electricity	368	378	349	335	362	89	79	91	92	92	86	92
Petroleum	2,227	2,328	2,185	2,089	2,066	499	430	553	586	505	434	541
Total	7,087	7,198	6,570	6,312	6,447	1,601	1,515	1,736	1,737	1,584	1,489	1,637
Other industries												
Coal	5,332	4,824	3,908	2,954	3,056	723	638	839	833	718	635	870
Other solid fuel	358	375	267	229	245	61	58	64	63	64	49	69
Other coal derived fuels §	72	62	52	54	60	17	10	17	14	19	18	9
Gas†	873	1,172	2,118	3,251	4,200	792	767	968	1,055	1,009	944	1,192
Electricity	2,032	2,105	2,154	2,176	2,380	547	514	596	625	592	554	609
Petroleum	8,386	8,945	8,982	9,294	9,325	2,155	1,687	2,727	2,813	2,091	1,714	2,707
Total	17,053	17,483	17,481	17,958	19,266	4,295	3,674	5,211	5,403	4,493	3,914	5,456
Domestic sector												
Coal	6,141	5,654	4,829	4,209	4,194	1,056	903	1,243	1,248	1,057	891	998
Other solid fuel	1,682	1,483	1,307	1,188	1,037	271	262	308	301	256	221	259
Gas†	3,211	3,542	3,930	4,509	4,815	935	603	1,348	1,740	953	561	1,561
Electricity	2,464	2,625	2,763	2,960	3,114	665	497	840	1,024	687	508	895
Petroleum	1,222	1,335	1,321	1,523	1,669	292	187	476	612	320	182	555
Total	14,720	14,639	14,150	14,389	14,829	3,219	2,452	4,214	4,925	3,273	2,363	4,268
Transport sector												
Coal	80	70	52	30	27	8	6	10	10	6	3	8
Other solid fuel	15	14	5	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other coal derived fuels §	12	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Electricity	93	94	94	92	91	22	22	24	24	22	22	23
Petroleum	10,466	11,002	11,483	11,962	12,762	3,030	3,207	2,993	2,973	3,265	3,399	3,125
Total	10,666	11,186	11,634	12,086	12,880	3,061	3,235	3,027	3,007	3,293	3,424	3,156
Other final consumers												
Coal	1,090	1,081	924	799	688	197	151	243	214	151	101	222
Other solid fuel	833	651	321	294	277	52	72	71	70	62	67	78
Gas†	704	762	866	996	1,083	222	146	323	357	231	153	342
Electricity	1,288	1,352	1,402	1,451	1,575	317	283	429	458	347	307	463
Petroleum	3,327	3,588	3,646	3,766	3,810	879	532	1,052	1,326	808	527	1,149
Total	7,242	7,434	7,159	7,304	7,433	1,667	1,184	2,118	2,425	1,599	1,155	2,254

§ Coke oven gas, creosote/pitch mixtures and other liquid fuels derived from coal.

† Town gas and natural gas supplied direct.

TABLE 4 Production and net arrivals of principal fuels

	Production of principal fuels									Net arrivals			
	Primary fuels					Secondary fuels					Petroleum		
	Coal	Crude petroleum §§	Natural gas	Electricity generated† Nuclear §	Hydro	Solid fuels	Refined petroleum‡	Gas available	Electricity generated	Coal	Crude	Refined	Natural gas
	Million tons	Million tons	Million therms	TWh	TWh	Million tons	Million tons	Million therms	TWh	Million tons	Million tons	Million tons	Million therms
1968	167.2	0.09	811	27.7	3.6	27.2	77.9	4,901	209.4	−2.7	81.8	8.0	396
1969	153.2	0.10	1,938	29.1	3.3	25.9	86.2	5,517	223.4	−3.5	91.4	6.1	416
1970	144.8	0.15	4,153	26.0	4.5	24.3	95.7	6,350	233.7	−3.1	99.4	2.3	333
1971	147.0	0.20	6,901	27.5	3.4	21.8	99.1	8,080	241.3	1.5	104.5	2.1	332
1972	119.9	0.32	9,958	29.4	3.4	19.1	100.5	10,625	248.1	3.2	102.5	4.6	306
1973	129.9	0.36	10,812	28.0	3.9	19.4	107.3	11,645	264.6	−1.0	110.5	1.1	293
1973 January	10.9	0.04	1,129	2.8	0.4	1.6	9.3	1,160	25.2	−0.1	8.6	0.8	38
February	11.7	0.03	1,025	2.8	0.4	1.6	7.9	1,118	25.0	−0.1	7.8	1.0	13
March	14.9	0.04	1,041	3.2	0.4	1.9	8.9	1,264	28.9	−0.1	9.3	0.6	6
April	10.7					1.5				−0.1			
1974 January	6.4	0.04	1,376	2.9	0.6	1.3	9.0	1,293	21.0	0.3	9.7	—	19
February p	3.1	0.04	1,240	3.0	0.6	1.0	8.7	1,299	21.2	..	8.6	0.4	19
March p	7.2	0.04	1,337	3.7	0.5	1.5	9.5	1,618	27.5	..	..	..	25
April p	9.1	..	..	..	..	1.5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

§ Generation for public supply.
§§ Including natural gas liquids.
† Also included in secondary electricity.
‡ Including feedstock for further processing at petro-chemical plants.

TABLE 5 Coal supply

Thousand tons

		Production					Tonnage lost (deep-mined) †	
		Total†						
	Total supply	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Deep-mined	Opencast	Imports	Recognised holidays and rest days	Disputes
1968	167,235	167,235		157,215	6,864	—	13,277	286
1969	153,234	153,234		144,241	6,320	—	12,137	2,913
1970	144,869	144,791		134,526	7,760	78	11,689	3,103
1971	151,255	147,081		134,322	10,498	4,174	11,045	4,734
1972	124,846	119,927		107,836	9,815	4,919	10,244	22,400
1973 p	131,589	129,940		118,150	9,970	1,649	10,313	5,569
1973 Jan.-April	48,730	48,224		44,316	3,381	506	1,711	229
1974 Jan.-April p¶	..	25,690		22,320	2,770	..	1,917	15,719
Per cent change	..	−46.7		−49.6	−18.1	..	+12.0	+
1973 April	10,767	10,664	10,756	9,850	730	103	975	38
1974 April p	..	9,050	9,188	8,239	661	..	936	49
Per cent change	..	−15.1	−14.6	−16.4	−9.5	..	−4.0	+28.9

† NCB mines only. ‡ Including slurry etc. recovered and disposed of other than by the National Coal Board. ¶ Coal miners national strike 10 February to 9 March 1974.

TABLE 6 Colliery manpower and productivity at NCB mines

	Number of wage-earners on colliery books at end of period		Absence percentage			Average output per manshift†		Recruitment	Wastage
	Thousands		Per cent			cwt.			
	Total	Underground	Total	Voluntary	Involuntary	Overall	At the face	Number	
1968	325	257	18.1	4.7	13.4	41.70	129.33	15,262	72,519
1969	300	235	18.3	4.8	13.5	43.45	136.96	23,346	48,295
1970	283	221	19.8	4.5	15.3	44.10	141.80	25,109	41,581
1971	279	218	18.1	4.4	13.7	43.94	143.08	28,010	32,309
1972	266	210	16.6	3.9	12.7	43.78	144.35	13,255	26,114
1973 p	245	..	..	..	..	45.01	..	17,402	37,961
1973 April	262	207	16.8	4.3	12.5	46.99	153.93	1,261	2,900
1974 April p	244	192	13.4	3.9	9.5	41.86	143.53	3,322	1,630

† Excluding capital working and tip coal.

TABLE 7 Consumption of coal

Thousand tons

			Inland consumption						Colliery disposals			
	Total	Overseas shipments	Total inland consumption	Collieries	Power stations §§	Gas works	Coke ovens	Other conversion industries	Industry ¶	House coal §†	Anthracite and dry † steam coal	Miscellaneous‡
	Million tons	Million tons	Million tons	Million tons	Million tons	Million tons	Million tons	Million tons	Million tons	Million tons	Million tons	Million tons
1968	167,185	2,678	164,507	2,420	73,191	10,646	24,934	3,474	22,585	21,353	1,860	4,044
1969	164,615	3,456	161,159	2,032	75,883	6,867	25,373	3,846	21,367	19,745	1,883	4,163
1970	157,548	3,141	154,407	1,886	76,017	4,212	24,940	4,084	19,304	17,882	1,990	4,092
1971	141,330	2,625	138,705	1,556	71,696	1,826	23,182	4,406	15,581	15,366	1,621	3,471
1972	122,713	1,768	120,945	1,383	65,611	566	20,152	4,475	11,478	12,569	1,756	2,952
1973	133,955	2,667	131,288	1,359	75,628	504	21,543	3,550	11,890	12,519	1,755	2,540
1973 Jan.-April	47,735	860	46,875	527	27,261	204	7,328	1,247	4,175	4,487	647	999
1974 Jan.-April p	34,833	301	34,532	361	21,071	65	5,133	510	2,909	3,264	351	868
Per cent change	−27.0	−65.0	−26.3	−31.5	−22.7	−68.1	−30.0	−59.1	..	..	..	−13.1
1973 April	10,242	158	10,084	107	5,930	46	1,708	275	920	799	90	209
1974 April p	9,327	122	9,205	106	5,112	11	1,629	155	903	992	124	173
Per cent change	−8.9	−22.8	−8.7	−0.9	−13.8	−76.1	−4.6	−43.6	..	+24.2	+37.8	−17.2

† Prior to April 1973 the figures relate to merchants' disposals to the domestic market.
‡ Including coal used for transport purposes and shipments to the Channel Islands.
¶ Prior to October 1973 the figures relate to actual consumption.
§ Including miners' coal.
§§ Public supply electricity and railway and transport power stations.

TABLE 8 Stocks of coal (†) Great Britain

End of period — Thousand tons

	Total	Distributed					Undistributed		
		Total distributed stocks	Power stations	Gas works	Coke ovens	Miscel-laneous	Total undistributed stocks	Opencast sites and central stocking grounds	Collieries
1968	**42,589**	**14,554**	**12,490**	**726**	**1,107**	**231**	**28,035**	**4,234**	**23,801**
1969	**31,416**	**12,935**	**11,018**	**461**	**1,231**	**225**	**18,481**	**3,159**	**15,322**
1970	**18,729**	**11,627**	**9,575**	**276**	**1,434**	**342**	**7,102**	**1,836**	**5,266**
1971	**28,211**	**17,982**	**15,712**	**72**	**1,777**	**421**	**10,229**	**3,256**	**6,973**
1972	**29,979**	**19,045**	**16,791**	**50**	**1,890**	**314**	**10,934**	**3,376**	**7,558**
1973	27,486	16,766	14,537	27	1,937	265	10,720	3,150	7,570
1973 April	31,017	18,547	16,061	46	2,201	239	12,470	3,268	9,202
1974 April p	18,575	10,605	8,952	16	1,487	150	7,970	2,898	5,072

(†) Excluding distributed stocks held in merchants' yards, etc., mainly for the domestic market, and stocks held by the industrial sector.

TABLE 9 Gas: sources of supply and send-out by the public gas supply system

	Natural gas supply			Fuel used for all purposes		Gas sent out		
	Net total into system	Indigenous	Arrivals	Coal	Oil	Total	Town gas	Natural gas for direct supply
	Million therms			Thousand tons		Million therms		
1968	**1,130**	**740**	**390**	**10,646**	**5,455**	**4,836**	**4,745**	**91**
1969	**2,267**	**1,856**	**411**	**6,885**	**5,525**	**5,437**	**4,973**	**464**
1970	**4,342**	**4,023**	**319**	**4,212**	**3,590**	**6,301**	**4,787**	**1,514**
1971	**6,977**	**6,660**	**317**	**1,770**	**1,881**	**8,061**	**4,069**	**3,992**
1972	**10,071**	**9,775**	**296**	**559**	**1,550**	**10,614**	**3,415**	**7,199**
1973	**10,916**	**10,639**	**277**	**503**	**1,739**	**11,620**	**2,434**	**9,186**
1973 Jan.-Mar.	3,254	3,200	54	158	708	3,534	919	2,615
1974 Jan.-Mar. p	4,038	3,967	71	55	463	4,205	668	3,537
Per cent change	+24.1	+24.0	+30.6	−65.4	−34.6	+19.0	−27.3	+35.3
1973 March	1,185	1,179	6	60	210	1,261	302	959
1974 March p	1,550	1,520	30	13	188	1,616	245	1,372
Per cent change	+30.8	+28.8	(+)	−77.8	−10.3	+28.2	−19.0	+43.1

TABLE 10 Generation of electricity by the public electricity supply system

	Primary fuel demand						Electricity generated				
								By steam plant			
	Total††	Coal	Oil	Natural gas	Nuclear electricity	Hydro-electricity	Total†	Nuclear	Other	Electricity sent out	Total electricity available
	Million tons of coal or coal equivalent						GWh				
United Kingdom											
1968	95.20	73.58	10.69	—	8.63	1.91	204,477	24,056	175,873	189,241	193,526
1969	100.75	76.05	13.81	0.14	9.01	1.74	218,402	25,271	188,177	201,970	206,295
1970	107.18	76.17	20.81	0.21	7.73	2.26	228,236	21,870	199,869	210,904	215,488
1971	105.85	71.18	24.16	0.95	8.05	1.51	235,740	23,209	207,808	218,000	222,374
1972	109.38	65.30	31.25	2.26	8.89	1.58	242,745	25,303	212,196	224,700	229,232
1973	114.63	75.57	28.04	1.03	8.22	1.71	258,792	23,657	229,960	241,279	244,662
1973 Jan.-Mar.	33.66	21.24	8.94	0.22	2.68	0.57	77,549	7,689	68,297	72,203	73,362
1974 Jan.-Mar. p	30.23	15.98	8.88	1.52	2.98	0.84	68,126	8,479	57,601	63,239	64,478
Per cent change	−10.2	−24.7	−0.6	(+)	+10.9	+45.7	−12.2	+10.3	−15.7	−12.4	−12.1
1973 March	12.23	7.78	3.23	0.05	0.97	0.20	28,345	2,791	25,001	26,415	26,820
1974 March p	12.16	6.33	3.73	0.73	1.15	0.22	26,942	3,271	23,059	25,022	25,455
Per cent change	−0.6	−18.6	+15.5	(+)	+17.9	+10.8	−4.9	+17.2	−7.8	−5.3	−5.1
England and Wales											
1968	84.36	67.30	8.86	—	7.73	0.47	182,244	21,549	159,611	168,817	169,884
1969	89.35	69.16	11.61	0.14	8.05	0.39	193,474	22,582	169,470	179,307	180,887
1970	94.47	69.61	17.45	0.21	6.79	0.41	200,421	19,230	179,184	185,505	188,594
1971	93.30	64.95	20.07	0.95	7.19	0.14	208,070	20,679	186,144	192,738	195,127
1972	95.63	58.24	26.74	2.26	8.08	0.31	212,910	23,010	187,951	197,199	200,239
1973	99.39	67.14	23.56	1.03	7.45	0.15	225,230	21,417	202,226	208,995	212,580
1973 Jan.-Mar.	29.05	18.73	7.59	0.22	2.46	0.05	67,175	7,039	59,762	62,485	63,814
1974 Jan.-Mar. p	26.00	13.99	7.63	1.52	2.73	0.10	58,938	7,781	50,700	54,636	55,546
Per cent change	−10.5	−25.3	+0.6	(+)	+11.1	+95.9	−12.3	+10.5	−15.2	−12.6	−13.0
1973 March	10.53	6.85	2.73	0.05	0.88	0.02	24,505	2,526	21,837	22,822	23,290
1974 March p	10.47	5.47	3.21	0.73	1.05	0.01	23,240	3,003	20,085	21,566	21,957
Per cent change	−0.5	−20.2	+17.6	(+)	+19.7	−26.7	−5.2	+18.9	−8.0	−5.5	−5.7

† Including generation by oil-engine and hydro-electric plant. †† Including coke.

TABLE 11 Plant capacity of the public electricity supply industry

Megawatts

	United Kingdom			England and Wales		
	Output capacity			Output capacity		
	At end of period	New plant brought into commission during period†	Maximum load during period	At end of period	New plant brought into commission during period†	Maximum load during period
1968	51,029	4,173	42,884	44,372	3,439	37,738
1969	52,735	2,777	43,885	46,035	2,661	38,153
1970	57,237	5,791	44,161	49,335	4,511	38,651
1971	61,972	5,178	45,897	53,559	4,592	39,927
1972	65,067	3,618	46,912	56,055	3,029	40,612
1973	67,719	3,156	46,024	58,408	2,589	39,671
1973 March	65,462	920	43,375	56,427	920	37,555
1974 March p	67,342	90	39,440	58,026	90	33,730

† Including revisions to interim ratings.

TABLE 12 Electricity generated outside the public electricity supply system‡ Great Britain

GWh

	Iron and steel	Engineering and other metal trades	Food, drink and tobacco	Coal mining	Chemical and allied trades: Nuclear power stations	Chemical and allied trades: Other†	Textiles, leather and clothing	Paper, printing and stationery	Other industries (including gas and water-works)	Total industry	Transport under-takings	Total
1968	2,779	1,412	376	623	3,655	5,753	568	2,857	598	18,621	625	19,246
1969	2,835	1,328	383	585	3,854	6,769	545	2,970	643	19,912	685	20,597
1970	2,700	1,508	375	478	4,142	6,846	564	2,965	637	20,215	664	20,879
1971	2,888	1,344	410	411	4,339	6,987	535	2,671	629	20,214	677	20,891
1972	2,587	1,320	409	420	4,098	7,408	458	2,786	679	20,165	689	20,854
1973 p	2,707	2,716	458	463	4,339	7,859	498	2,763	716	22,519	702	23,221
1972 1st quarter	743	319	140	77	1,255	1,925	105	710	188	5,462	178	5,640
2nd quarter	618	318	53	117	907	1,916	119	679	160	4,887	167	5,054
3rd quarter	550	332	45	100	950	1,766	112	633	149	4,637	163	4,800
4th quarter	676	351	171	126	986	1,801	122	764	182	5,179	181	5,360
1973 1st quarter	798	624	108	140	1,157	2,060	133	772	203	5,995	194	6,189
2nd quarter	641	565	63	113	1,001	1,843	127	692	169	5,214	175	5,389
3rd quarter	593	672	62	90	1,105	1,743	114	584	156	5,119	162	5,281
4th quarter p	675	855	225	120	1,076	2,213	124	715	188	6,191	171	6,362

† Including production by the mineral oil refining industry. ‡ Major producers only.

TABLE 13 Sales of gas and electricity by the public supply systems

	Gas					Electricity				
	Total	Iron and steel industry	Other industries	Domestic	Other	Total	Iron and steel industry	Other industries	Domestic	Other
	Million therms					GWh				
1968	4,443	140	820	2,829	654	177,096	11,000	62,826	66,655	36,615
1969	5,000	174	911	3,211	704	188,834	11,693	65,742	72,185	39,214
1970	5,780	244	1,232	3,542	762	197,751	12,004	67,489	77,213	41,045
1971	7,520	343	2,381	3,930	866	203,433	10,837	69,371	80,674	42,551
1972	9,787	437	3,845	4,509	996	210,470	10,774	69,117	86,723	43,856
1973 p	10,730	395	4,437	4,815	1,083	225,057	11,656	75,314	91,244	46,843
1972 1st quarter	2,883	102	853	1,623	305	59,535	2,434	16,302	28,068	12,731
2nd quarter	2,223	98	968	935	222	49,385	2,866	17,446	19,468	9,605
3rd quarter	1,738	92	897	603	146	42,124	2,543	16,407	14,567	8,607
4th quarter	2,943	145	1,127	1,348	323	59,426	2,931	18,962	24,620	12,913
1973 1st quarter p	3,305	104	1,104	1,740	357	66,562	2,978	19,794	30,015	13,775
2nd quarter p	2,328	98	1,046	953	231	52,469	2,947	18,741	20,144	10,637
3rd quarter p	1,774	87	973	561	153	44,479	2,749	17,567	14,877	9,286
4th quarter p	3,323	106	1,314	1,561	342	61,547	2,982	19,212	26,208	13,145

TABLE 14 Refinery throughput and output of finished petroleum products

Thousand tons

	Through put of crude/ and process oils	Refinery fuel	Total output of finished products††	Gases: Butane and propane	Gases: Other petroleum	Aviation spirit and aviation wide-cut gasoline	Motor spirit	Industrial and white spirits	Kerosene: Burning oil†	Kerosene: Vaporising oil	Gas/ diesel oil	Fuel oil	Lubricating oils	Bitumen
1968	81,787	5,073	75,832	1,022	586	430	9,379	247	4,583	69	16,874	33,718	1,019	1,726
1969	90,251	5,547	83,743	1,129	507	312	10,065	195	5,310	56	19,170	37,661	1,183	1,695
1970	100,301	5,933	93,200	1,163	364	287	11,167	186	5,724	36	22,159	42,181	1,303	1,886
1971	103,678	6,086	96,693	1,217	280	180	12,324	129	6,108	40	24,068	42,491	1,407	2,061
1972	105,290	6,319	97,797	1,440	363	416	13,417	123	6,689	31	25,133	40,355	1,312	1,972
1973	112,532	6,941	104,280	1,629	388	371	14,608	148	7,118	34	27,413	41,362	1,453	2,190
1973 Jan.-Mar.	27,388	1,643	25,431	409	119	79	3,368	34	1,833	4	6,421	10,448	359	501
1974 Jan.-Mar. p	28,473	1,810	26,369	423	100	43	3,344	52	1,837	3	7,017	10,677	364	494
Per cent change	+4.0	+10.2	+3.7	+3.3	−16.6	−44.7	−0.7	+52.8	+0.2	−22.4	+9.3	+2.2	+1.2	−1.4
1973 March	9,404	561	8,722	141	35	46	1,052	13	631	–	2,227	3,598	129	198
1974 March p	10,072	595	9,329	136	32	18	1,091	18	600	3	2,446	3,829	136	215
Per cent change	+7.1	+6.1	+7.0	−3.9	−8.3	−60.3	+3.7	+37.6	−4.9	(+)	+9.8	+6.4	+4.8	+8.4

† Including aviation turbine fuel.
†† Including output of products not shown separately namely naphtha (light distillate feedstock) and other feedstock, waxes and miscellaneous production: refinery losses have been excluded.

PETROLEUM

Refinery output, Inland deliveries and bunkers, Shipments & Arrivals of refined products
(Seasonally adjusted annual rates)

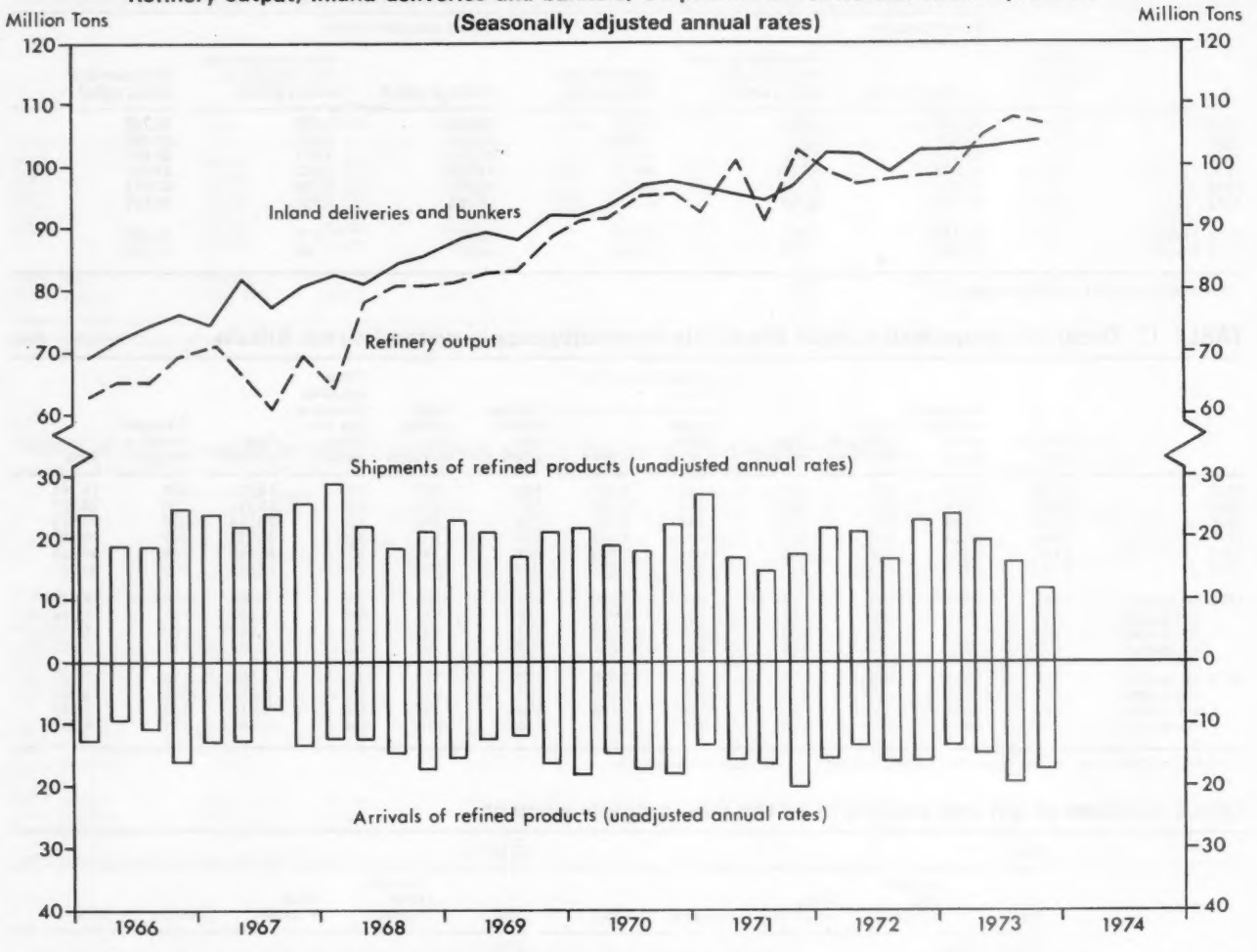

TABLE 15 Deliveries of petroleum products for inland consumption

Thousand tons

	Total §	Aviation Spirit and aviation wide-cut gasoline	Motor spirit	Industrial and white spirits	Kerosene: Aviation turbine fuel	Kerosene: Burning oil	Kerosene: Vaporising oil	Gas/diesel oil: Derv fuel	Gas/diesel oil: Other	Fuel oil †	Lubricating oils	Bitumen	Paraffin wax
1968	77,746	445	12,808	361	2,721	1,967	74	4,577	9,025	30,611	1,134	1,828	55
1969	83,779	377	13,231	241	2,921	2,208	64	4,791	10,349	33,393	1,208	1,812	58
1970	89,404	224	14,010	181	3,202	2,442	53	4,955	11,918	37,975	1,157	2,036	56
1971	90,073	145	14,727	183	3,690	2,525	47	5,104	12,370	38,772	1,129	2,173	61
1972	96,157	139	15,648	211	3,867	2,882	40	5,172	14,874	40,654	1,095	2,169	65
1973	97,774	133	16,659	230	4,135	3,134	35	5,569	14,861	38,824	1,166	2,419	74
1973 Jan.-Mar.	27,897	30	3,850	57	883	1,131	7	1,365	4,853	12,036	286	551	17
1974 Jan.-Mar. p	25,277	23	3,575	53	721	979	6	1,351	4,135	10,835	255	514	24
Per cent change	−9.4	−25.4	−7.1	−5.7	−18.3	−13.5	−21.2	−1.0	−14.8	−10.0	−10.6	−6.8	+46.2
1973 March	9,491	12	1,415	19	335	343	4	495	1,625	3,913	101	227	6
1974 March p	8,698	6	1,260	19	254	286	2	469	1,364	3,850	82	205	8
Per cent change	−8.4	−52.9	−11.0	−5.6	−24.0	−16.5	−36.3	−5.2	−16.1	−1.6	−18.9	−9.7	+46.3

§ Including products not shown separately. Excluding fuel consumed by refiners. † Excluding refinery consumption.

TABLE 16 Stocks of oil – end month

	Held by oil companies†		Power stations*
	Million tons	Estimated days supply‡	Million tons
1974 January	18.9	56	0.80
February	19.2	62	0.73
March	19.9	75	0.83
April p	21.5	88	0.86

† Includes stocks of the product equivalent of crude and process oils held at the refineries and products at various stages in the distribution system.
* Fuel oil held at main oil burning stations in Great Britain.
‡ With effect from March (revised figures) estimated days supply has been based on forecast demand for the ensuing months taking into account seasonal factors.

The metric change

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Index of industrial production in March

The provisional estimate index of production for March 1974, prepared by the Central Statistical Office, is 104.7 (seasonally adjusted). For manufacturing industry alone the figure is 106.4.

For the three months January 1974 to March 1974, it is provisionally estimated that production as a whole was 6.5 per cent lower than the figures for the preceding three months, October 1973 to December 1973; for manufacturing industry alone there was a decrease of 5.7 per cent.

The average index numbers of the latest three months and the previous three months shown at the foot of the table give a general guide to the changes which have taken place in the output of the major groups in recent months.

Index of industrial production

Seasonally adjusted

1970 = 100

	Total all industries	Mining and quarrying	Manufacturing industries												
			Total	Food, drink and tobacco					Engineering and allied industries						
				Total	Food	Drink and tobacco	Coal and petroleum products	Chemicals and allied industries	Total	Mechanical engineering	Instrument engineering	Electrical engineering	Shipbuilding and marine engineering	Total vehicles	Metal goods, n.e.s.
Weights	1,000	37	745	84	52	32	7	58	319	100	15	67	16	73	48
1969	99.7	104.9	99.4	98.6	99.6	96.8	92.1	95.0	99.8	97.0	92.4	97.1	94.8	105.9	104.1
1970	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1971	100.3	99.7	99.5	100.7	100.1	101.7	103.4	102.2	99.1	100.1	100.8	102.6	96.6	98.5	93.3
1972	102.4	84.0	101.9	104.9	104.0	106.3	102.6	108.7	99.4	95.1	93.1	110.3	91.8	101.6	94.2
1973	109.7	93.5	110.1	109.1	106.1	113.9	110.0	122.3	107.4	101.8	101.7	127.9	95.1	103.0	102.8
1971 2nd qtr.	100.7	102.9	100.2	100.9	100.5	101.4	104.5	101.1	100.5	102.4	101.0	100.9	96.9	101.3	95.8
3rd qtr.	100.4	101.4	99.3	100.5	99.9	101.6	101.2	101.1	99.4	99.5	99.7	104.2	95.2	100.2	93.0
4th qtr.	100.2	92.0	98.8	100.8	100.0	102.0	105.7	104.9	97.6	96.8	99.9	105.6	91.9	96.5	90.8
1972 1st qtr.	98.2	45.6	98.6	104.8	102.6	108.4	97.4	104.1	97.2	98.0	92.1	107.0	90.4	94.8	89.1
2nd qtr.	102.7	95.7	101.2	104.7	103.5	106.6	100.8	108.1	98.1	94.1	90.6	107.5	93.0	100.4	94.2
3rd qtr.	102.9	95.0	102.3	105.3	105.0	105.7	106.6	107.4	99.8	92.8	96.1	111.5	91.5	103.1	96.7
4th qtr.	105.8	99.7	105.4	104.7	104.8	104.6	105.5	113.0	102.4	95.6	93.7	115.1	92.2	108.1	96.8
1973 1st qtr.	110.2	99.6	110.4	108.2	106.3	111.4	107.2	119.8	107.9	104.7	101.2	127.4	93.9	103.0	102.0
2nd qtr.	109.3	95.6	109.4	109.5	106.9	113.9	107.3	120.1	105.7	98.3	100.6	128.3	94.6	99.5	104.2
3rd qtr.	110.3	94.1	110.7	110.1	105.3	117.9	114.7	122.9	108.8	103.1	102.1	128.0	95.8	106.2	104.7
4th qtr.	108.8	84.7	109.7	108.4	105.9	112.4	111.0	126.3	107.0	101.3	102.9	128.0	96.0	103.5	100.3
1974 1st qtr.	101.7	55.4	103.5	112.4	105.3	124.2	103.4	131.3	98.9	94.5	94.4	120.4	87.4	89.1	98.5
1973 July	110.3	95	110.5	109	104	119	113	121	109	103	102	128	96	105	109
Aug	109.7	92	110.3	110	107	115	120	120	109	103	102	128	96	110	103
Sept	110.8	95	111.4	111	105	120	112	127	108	104	103	128	96	104	102
Oct.	110.8	94	111.3	110	107	116	115	129	109	103	104	129	95	108	100
Nov.	109.8	84	111.3	109	106	112	111	130	108	103	104	130	97	103	104
Dec.	105.9	76	106.6	106	105	109	107	120	104	98	100	125	96	100	97
1974 Jan.	99.4	69	99.8	112	105	125	100	130	96	94	94	120	88	81	93
Feb.	101.1	40	104.3	112	106	121	103	133	99	94	94	120	86	93	99
Mar.	104.7	57	106.4	113	105	127	107	130	101	95	96	122	89	93	104
Oct.-Dec. (av.)	108.8	85	109.7	108	106	112	111	126	107	101	103	128	96	104	100
Jan.-Mar. (av.)	101.7	55	103.5	112	105	124	103	131	99	94	95	121	88	89	99

	Manufacturing industries (continued)													Construction	Gas, electricity and water
	Metal manufacture			Textiles, leather and clothing				Bricks, pottery, glass, etc.							
	Total	Ferrous	Non-ferrous	Total	Textiles	Leather, leather goods and fur	Clothing and footwear	Total	Bricks, cement, etc.	Pottery and glass	Timber, furniture, etc.	Paper, printing and publishing	Other manufacturing industries		
Weights	57	43	14	76	49	3	24	27	17	10	22	64	31	146	72
1969	100.3	100.4	100.0	100.4	100.2	103.0	100.4	103.7	102.7	105.2	99.7	99.3	99.5	102.0	96.2
1970	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1971	89.4	86.8	97.7	102.3	100.7	103.0	105.4	107.7	106.4	109.8	103.0	97.3	100.6	102.9	103.9
1972	88.9	86.7	95.7	104.6	103.0	104.5	107.7	114.1	113.7	114.9	113.0	102.7	104.4	105.2	111.2
1973	95.5	92.1	106.0	109.8	108.6	101.3	113.7	125.1	124.9	125.4	128.4	113.7	111.3	107.5	118.1
1971 2nd qtr.	91.4	88.7	99.8	102.4	100.4	101.3	106.6	107.1	104.6	111.1	100.3	97.7	101.9	102.1	102.5
3rd qtr.	88.0	85.2	96.8	102.2	100.5	106.4	105.1	107.5	105.8	110.2	101.8	97.2	99.9	103.2	105.8
4th qtr.	84.7	81.7	94.1	102.2	100.7	105.2	104.9	108.7	108.3	109.4	106.5	97.3	100.6	105.3	108.0
1972 1st qtr.	80.9	78.6	87.9	100.3	96.9	103.1	107.0	105.5	106.8	103.5	110.8	99.3	97.7	106.9	103.1
2nd qtr.	88.5	87.7	91.3	104.1	102.8	103.5	106.9	115.5	114.2	117.6	113.9	101.8	103.1	107.6	111.7
3rd qtr.	90.0	88.2	95.9	105.9	105.1	104.4	107.7	112.6	112.5	112.7	111.5	103.3	106.2	101.6	116.2
4th qtr.	96.1	92.4	107.6	107.9	107.3	106.9	109.4	122.9	121.2	125.7	115.7	106.4	110.6	104.5	114.7
1973 1st qtr.	98.1	94.6	109.0	110.3	110.8	102.2	110.6	128.2	132.8	121.0	137.1	110.9	113.4	110.1	114.0
2nd qtr.	93.6	89.6	105.8	112.0	110.4	102.2	116.7	125.8	123.5	129.3	129.2	113.5	112.9	108.3	117.9
3rd qtr.	95.6	92.3	105.7	108.0	106.5	100.8	112.2	124.4	122.1	128.2	126.7	115.6	109.0	107.6	119.4
4th qtr.	94.9	92.0	103.7	109.0	106.6	99.8	115.2	122.0	121.3	123.0	120.6	115.0	109.9	104.2	121.3
1974 1st qtr.	86.3	80.0	105.6	97.7	95.7	90.9	102.7	111.7	103.4	124.8	113.5	108.4	95.6		110.7
1973 July	94	92	101	107	105	101	112	127	124	131	128	116	111		122
Aug.	93	90	100	108	106	101	112	124	122	126	123	114	109		117
Sept.	100	95	116	110	109	101	113	123	120	127	129	116	107		119
Oct.	94	93	97	110	107	102	118	124	124	124	124	115	113		128
Nov.	97	93	108	111	108	101	119	124	122	128	127	115	111		119
Dec.	94	90	106	106	105	97	109	118	118	117	110	115	106		118
1974 Jan.	82	76	99	90	87	90	96	106	99	117	105	102	93		109
Feb.	88	82	108	98	96	90	103	110	102	123	115	112	94		105
Mar.	89	82	109	105	104	93	109	119	109	134	121	111	100		117
Oct.-Dec. (av.)	95	92	104	109	107	100	115	122	121	123	120	115	110		122
Jan.-Mar. (av.)	86	80	105	98	96	91	103	112	103	125	114	108	96		110

Business Monitor

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Business Monitors in the Production, Service and Distributive and Miscellaneous series are normally available by annual subsription from Her Majesty's Stationery Office, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH.

The Census of Production reports are available on standing order from the same address or can be purchased separately from the Government Bookshops or through booksellers.

Exceptionally copies can be purchased over the counter at either the Department of Industry Central Library, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, or at the Department's Statistics and Market Intelligence Library, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU. Copies of specific issues (including back issues) can be ordered by post (payable in advance) from the Department's Central Library, which will supply prices on request (tel. 01-222 7877, ext. 3038).

A complete list of Business Monitors is available on application to Department of Industry, Room 306, Gaywood House, Great Porter Street, London SW1P 3LW.

Inquires about the distribution of Business Monitors may be made to the Business Statistics Office, Cardiff Road, Newport, Mon. NPT 1XG (tel. 0633-56111, ext. 2700; Telex 497121/497122 – Answer back BSO Newport).

New Business Monitor for miscellaneous metal goods

The first results of a new statistical quarterly inquiry into manufacturers' sales of miscellaneous metal goods were published in a Business Monitor series on 29 May.

The new inquiry, which was introduced in the second quarter of 1973, is designed to fit into the new system of industrial statistics being developed by the Government Statistical Service and complete a range of 17 inquiries covering all types of metal goods (Order XII of the Standard Industrial Classification).

The Monitor covers manufacturers' sales of a wide range of metal articles (eg builders' and cabinet makers' ironmongery, sanitary ware and plumbing fixtures and fittings) included in Minimum List Headings 399.12 of SIC, for the second and third quarters of 1973. Information on imports and exports of these products is also included.

This new publication (Reference PQ 399.12) is available on subscription of 37½p per annum from Her Majesty's Stationery Office, PO Box 569, London, SE19 NH.

Index of retail prices

At 23 April, the official retail prices index was 106.1 (15 January 1974 = 100) compared with 102.6 at 19 March. The index for food was 103.2 compared with 102.0 at 19 March.

Registrations of British, Community and foreign films

The following are details of films registered by the Department of Trade under the Films Acts 1960 to 1970, as amended by the European Communities Act 1972, during the week ended Friday, 24 May 1974.
BR/E indicates that the film is a British quota film, EC that the film is a quota film. The date which forms part of the registration number of each is the date on which quota life of the film expires.

Title of film	Registered no.	Playing time minutes	Date of registration	Registered in the name of	Maker's name
			BRITISH		
Dead Cert	BR/E 37487/26/5/79	100	22 May	United Artists Corporation Ltd.	Woodfall Ltd.
Movietone News 2346	BR/E 37247/26/5/79	7	24 May	British Movietonews Ltd.	British Movietonews Ltd.
Movietone News 2346A	BR/E 37248/26/5/79	7	24 May	British Movietonews Ltd.	British Movietonews Ltd.
			COMMUNITY		
Nada	EC 37478/26/5/79	134	22 May	Connoisseur Films Ltd.	Les Films La Boetie, Paris and Italian International, Rome
L'Audition	EC 37479/26/5/79	13	22 May	Connoisseur Films Ltd.	Pi-Production, Paris
Hot Lips	EC 37480/26/5/79	95	22 May	Variety Film Distributors Ltd.	Films Number One and Golan Productions, Paris
Spring Into Summer	EC 37481/26/5/79	117	22 May	Gala Film Distributors Ltd.	Renn Productions, Boulogne, O.R.T.F., Paris, and Films du Chef Lieu, Ferrieres
The Adulteress	EC 37482/26/5/79	69	22 May	Cinecenta Film Distributors Ltd.	Reda Productions, Paris
Red Hot Zorro	EC 37483/26/5/79	72	22 May	Cinecenta Film Distributors Ltd.	Brux International Pictures, Brussels
In Love With Sex	EC 37484/26/5/79	84	22 May	English Film Company Ltd.	Pierson Production, Paris and I.C.A.R. Produzione, Rome
			FOREIGN		
What The Chambermaid Saw	F 37485	94	22 May	Cinecenta Film Distributors Ltd.	Theatre Cinema and Film Enterprise, Paris
White Slavers	F 37486	84	22 May	Mark Associates Ltd.	Afiba Film A.G., Zurich
Newman's Law	F 37488	99	23 May	Cinema International Corporation (UK)	Universal Pictures

Note:
A Direction has been made under Section 2(2) of the Films Act 1960, as amended by Section 10 of the Films Act 1970 renewing the quota life of the film 'Oliver!' (BR/E 34172) from 1 January 1975 to 31 December 1976.
Amendment to the Register:
On 20 May 1972, the registration number of the film 'Last Tango In Paris' registered 29 March 1973 was amended to EC 36719/1/4/78 and the names of makers corrected to Produzioni Europee Associate, Rome and Les Productions Artistes Associes, Paris.

Index to statistics and organisational information published regularly in 'Trade and Industry'

A = annually M = monthly Q = quarterly 6M = every six months.

Title	Last published
Air transport: trade by air (6M)	This week
Balance of payments:	
current account (M)	23 May 1974
trends in invisible transactions (Q)	18 Apr. 1974
(*see also* Overseas trade of the UK)	
Bankruptcy orders (Q)	This week
Business names and limited partnerships (A)	7 Mar. 1974
Capital expenditure:	
distributive and service trades (A)	28 Apr. 1971
manufacturing, distributive and service industries (Q)	4 Apr. 1974
Catering trades turnover (M)	16 May 1974
Chemicals industry activity (Q)	2 Aug. 1973
Companies:	
acquisitions and mergers (Q)	This week
new registrations:	
Gt. Britain (M)	23 May 1974
N. Ireland (M)	This week
Computers: UK market (Q)	24 May 1973
Construction work overseas (A)	11 Oct. 1973
Electronic capital equipment (Q)	21 June 1973
Energy trends (M)	This week
Engineering industries: sales and orders (M)	16 May 1974
Film industry:	
British Film Fund Agency returns (M)	11 Apr. 1974
cinema admissions and takings (M)	23 May 1974
overseas payments and earnings (A)	9 Aug. 1973
registration of films (A)	31 Jan. 1974
Food:	
consumption levels (6M)	2 May 1974
household consumption (Q)	11 Apr. 1974
Footwear industry:	
production, orders and deliveries (M)	2 May 1974
Foreign exchange: official reserves (M)	9 May 1974
Foreign trade:	
industrial countries' production and trade (Q)	14 Mar. 1974
world exports of manufactures (A)	30 Sept. 1970
(*see also* Overseas trade of the UK)	
Furniture orders and deliveries (M)	23 May 1974
Hire-purchase business (M)	9 May 1974
Industrial production:	
index numbers (M)	This week
N. Ireland index (M)	This week
Wales index (Q)	11 Apr. 1974
Insurance companies: investments and assets (A)	30 Aug. 1973
Investment:	
book values of overseas direct investments (every 3 years)	15 Nov. 1973
industry's investment intentions (3 times a year)	10 Jan. 1974
investment and earnings overseas (A)	29 Mar. 1973
Machine tools: sales and orders (M)	11 Apr. 1974
Man-made fibres:	
deliveries (Q)	23 May 1974
production (M)	23 May 1974
production: quarterly analysis (Q)	23 May 1974
Motor industry:	
car and commercial vehicle production (M)	This week
estimated figures (M)	16 May 1974
motor trade turnover (Q)	23 May 1974
Office development permits (Q)	16 May 1974
Overseas trade of the UK:	
direct exporters and credit terms (A)	10 May 1973
UK overseas trade in 1973	16 May 1974
unit value and volume index numbers (M)	This week
value: analysis of trends (Q)	16 May 1974
(*see also* Balance of payments)	
Pension funds: investments and assets (A)	30 Aug. 1973
Retail prices index (M)	This week
Retail trades:	
sales (M)	9 May 1974
provisional figures	16 May 1974
sales, N. Ireland (M)	2 May 1974
stocks (M)	16 May 1974
Royalties: overseas transactions (A)	12 Apr. 1973
Shipping: nationality of vessels in UK sea-borne trade (A)	6 Dec. 1973
Steel consumption and stocks (Q)	16 May 1974
Stocks:	
distributive and service trades (A)	28 Apr. 1971
manufacturers' and distributors' (Q)	4 Apr. 1974
retail (M)	16 May 1974
Television: overseas payments and earnings (A)	9 Aug. 1973
Textiles:	
activity in the industry (Q)	25 Apr. 1974
carpet sales (M)	2 May 1974
cotton industry production (M)	28 Mar. 1974
hosiery production (M)	21 Mar. 1974
made-up clothing: orders and deliveries (M)	2 May 1974
orders and deliveries (M)	21 Mar. 1974
wholesale houses' sales (M)	This week
wool exports (Q)	14 June 1973
wool output (M)	28 Mar. 1974
Tourism:	
foreign visitor arrivals (M)	This week
overseas travel and tourism (A)	21 Feb. 1974
Wholesale prices:	
average prices of selected commodities (A)	4 Apr. 1974
index numbers (M)	23 May 1974

Departmental organisation etc.

Subjects	Last published
British commercial representation overseas	4 Apr. 1974
Business Monitor titles	6 Sept. 1973
Customs notices of interest to exporters	9 May 1974
ECGD local offices	23 May 1974
Guide to DTI	6 Dec. 1973
Official Receivers' offices	23 May 1974
Programme of trade promotions	2 May 1974
Release dates of economic statistics	This week

MISCELLANEOUS ADVERTISEMENTS

30p per line, minimum £1.50 payable in advance Box No. 50p
Orders for advertisements should be addressed to HM Stationery Office, Room C70, Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct, London, EC1P 1BN
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Government Sales

Department of the Environment

4 June 1974

Location: Department of the Environment, Supplies Division Stores, India Pavilion, Exhibition Grounds, Wembley, Middlesex (Tel: 01-903 2608)

Auctioneers: Messrs. Fuller, Horsey, Sons and Cassell, 52 Bow Lane, London EC4M 9ET (Tel: 01-248 7954)

Office and miscellaneous furniture, engineering, electrical, canteen, domestic and other equipment, etc.

Catalogue: direct from auctioneer, price 10p each.

Ministry of Defence

5 June 1974 Miscellaneous Stores

Location: The Astoria, Roundhay Road, Leeds 8

Auctioneers: Bartle & Son (Dept. L), 52 Merrion Street, Leeds LS2 8JH (Tel: 0532 20898)

Lathes, drilling, grinding, milling, shaping, etc., machines, presses, saws, compressors, fork lift trucks, tractors, generator, degreasing and cleansing plant, trolley jacks, welding and pneumatic equipment, MT spares, cable, tyres, tools, lifting and towing equipment, batteries, carpets, tents, blankets, kit bags, camp equipment, greatcoats, battledress blouses and trousers, pullovers, shirts, drawers and other items of service clothing. Household and office furniture including chairs, tables, wardrobes, bookcases, chests of drawers, filing cabinets and a large quantity of other miscellaneous stores.

11 June 1974 Miscellaneous Stores

Location: Ordnance Storage and Disposal Depot ROAC, Ruddington, Notts

Auctioneer: Arnold & Son (Dept. L), Modwena House, 13 Market Place, Burton-upon-Trent DE14 1HD (Tel: 0283 46657)

Approximately 700 lots which include earth mover spares and components, vehicle tyres and spares, textiles, blankets, furniture, household equipment, electrical and electronic spares, engineering stores, aircraft spares, machine tools and a large quantity of other miscellaneous stores.

Catalogues of the above sales, which gives details of thel ots, conditions of sale, viewing times, etc. are available from the relevant auctioneers from two weeks prior to and up to the date of sale, price 10p (postal orders only).

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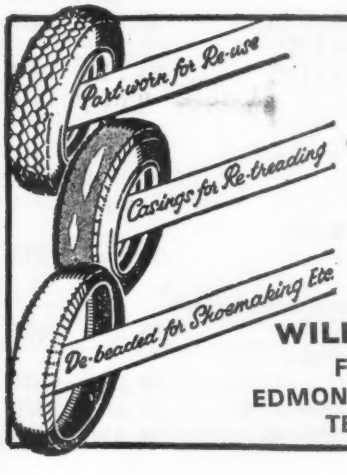

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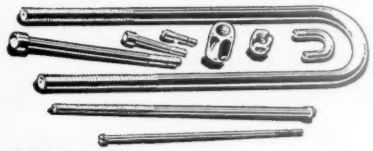

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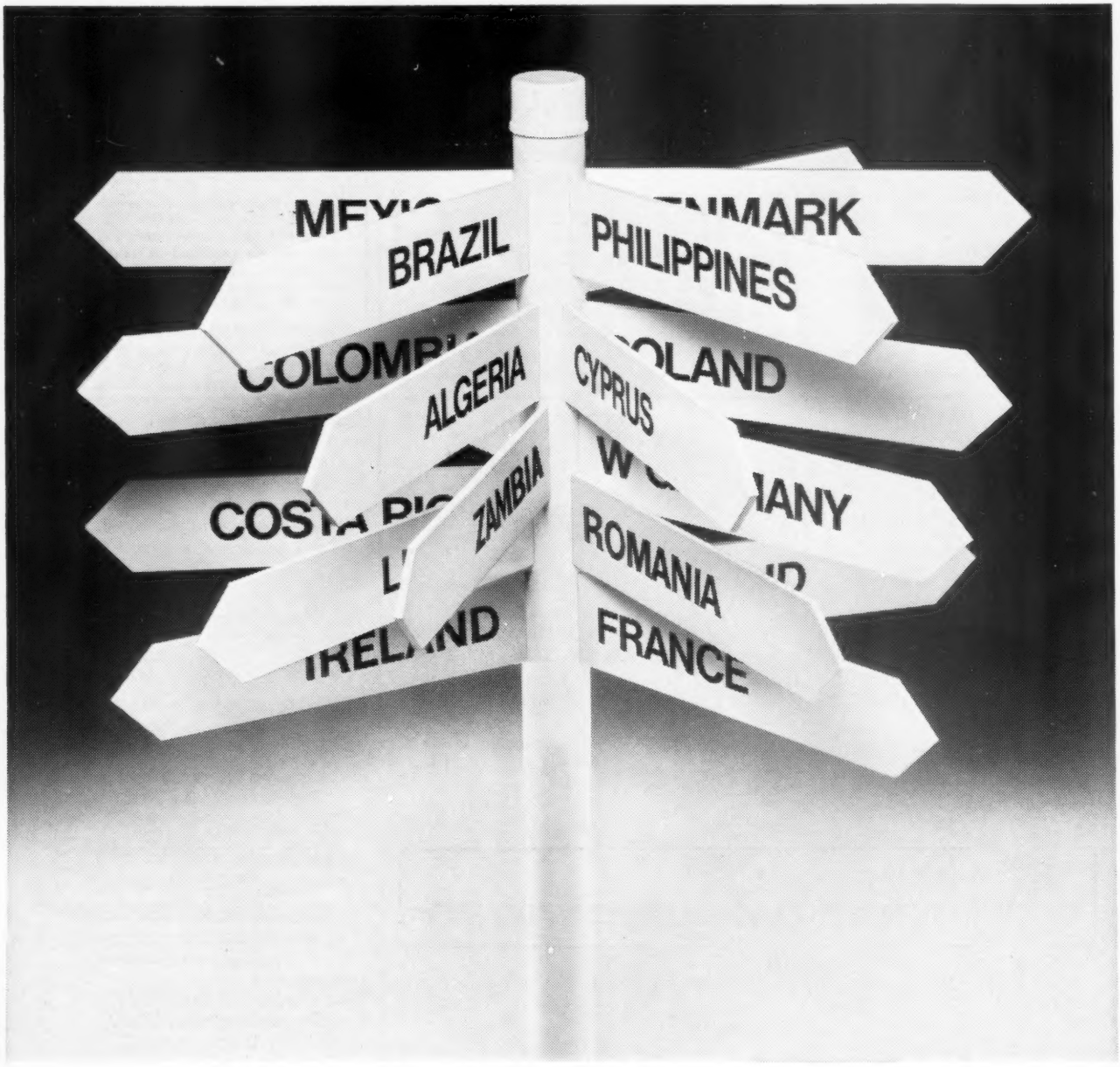
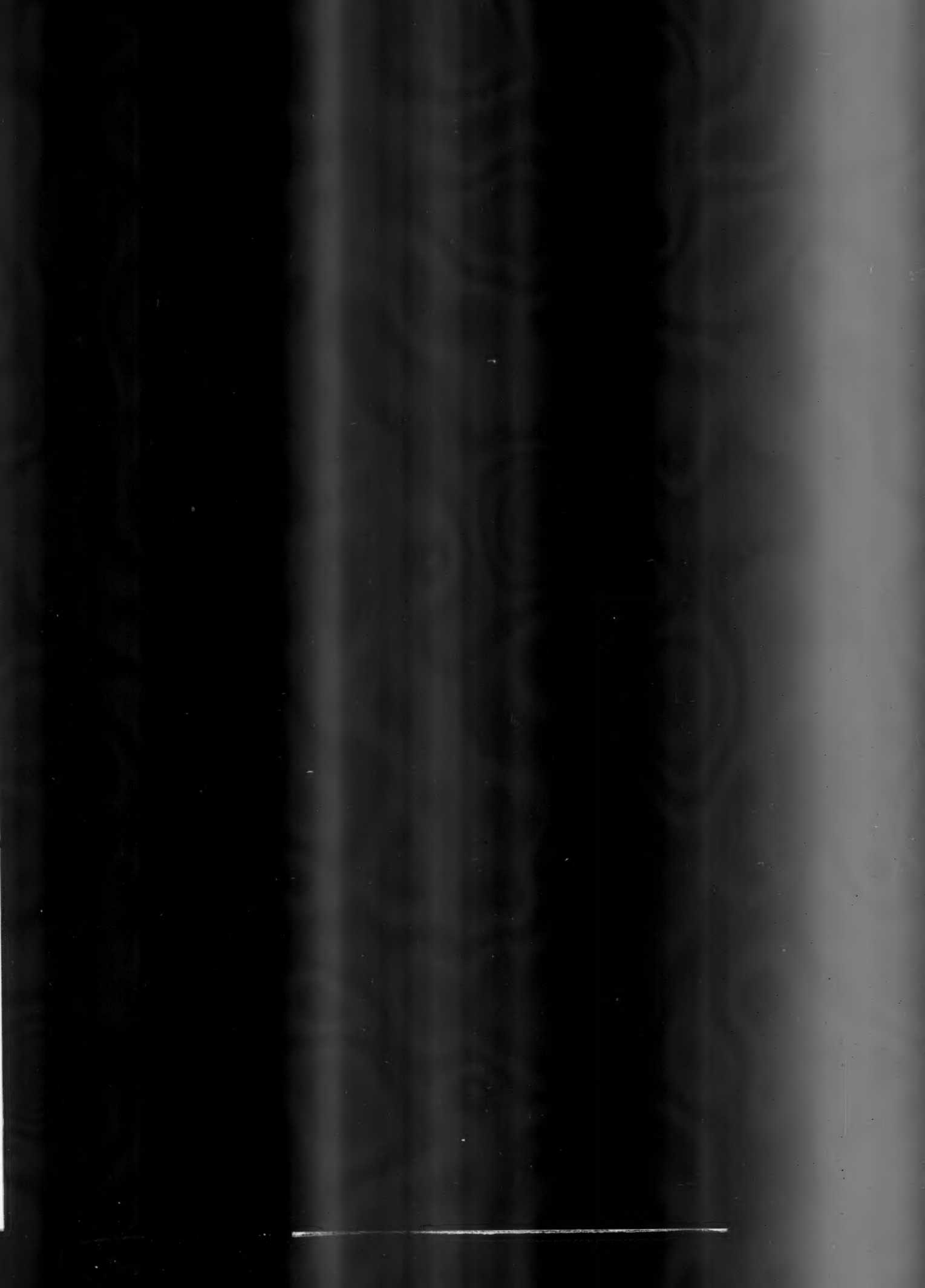
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ISBN 0 11 723732 9